

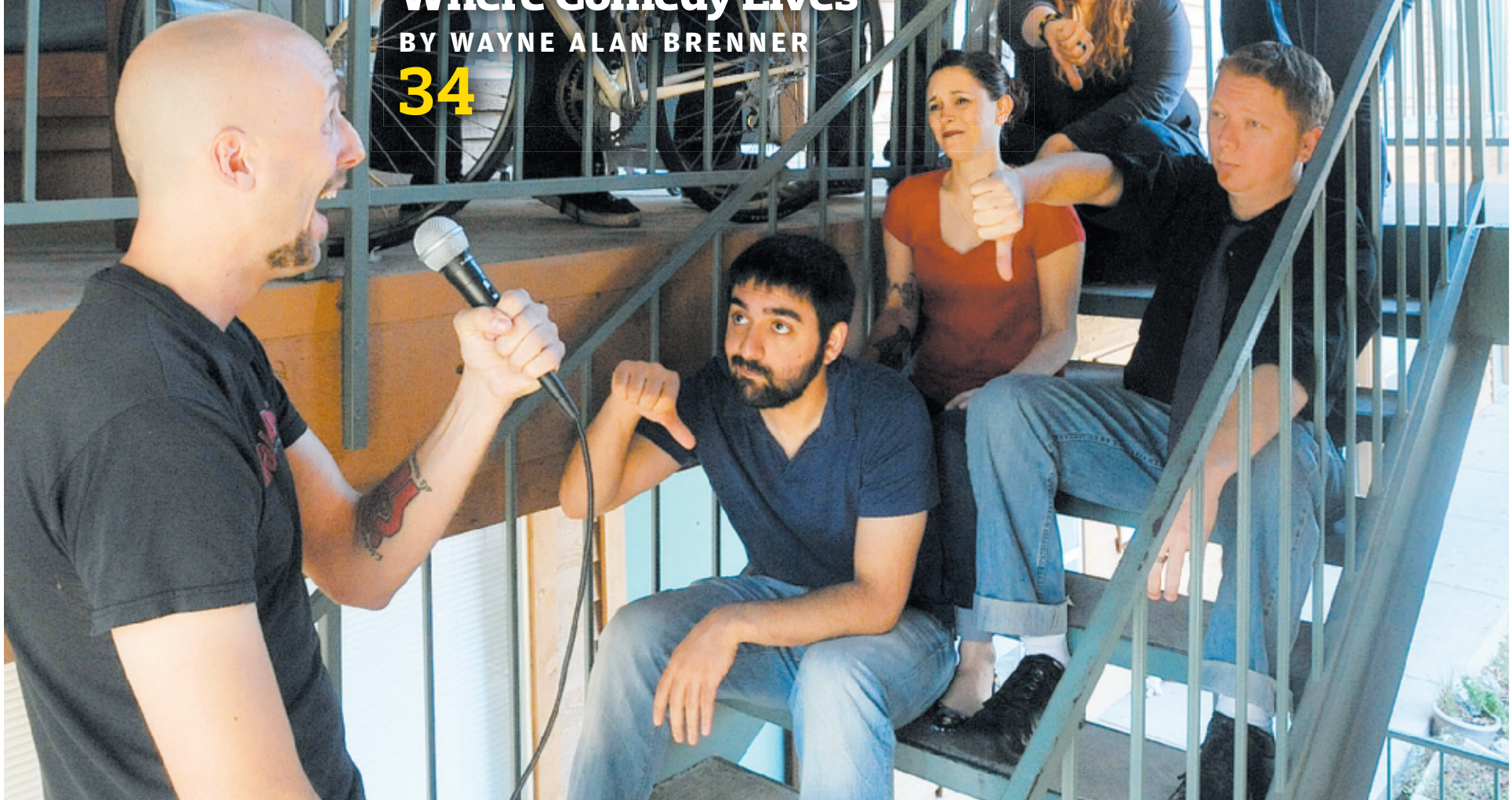
THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE

Tough Crowd

The Sandstone Apartments:
Where Comedy Lives

BY WAYNE ALAN BRENNER

34



28 LIFE SAVINGS
AT ST. JOHN
FOOD BANK

44 BAKERS RISE UP:
NEW COTTAGE
LAW IN ACTION

50 THE HYPNOTIC
MOVING PAINTINGS
OF DANIEL KIEWER

54 POLISH METAL:
DRAWING FROM
THE SOURCE

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CONTENTS

VOLUME 31, NUMBER 13 ★ NOVEMBER 25, 2011



COVER PHOTO BY
JOHN ANDERSON

6 PAGE TWO
BY LOUIS BLACK
POSTMARKS

austinchronicle.com/blogs
CHRONOLOG
BLOGS
VLOGS
GALLERIES
BALLOTS +
POLLS
DAILY LISTINGS
COMMENTS +
FORUMS
TUNES
GUIDES
CONTESTS
BREAKING
NEWS

NEWS

19 Fork in the Road on Sixth Street; LCRA Close To Capping Utility Sales; AISD Parents, Teachers a Tough Sell; New Map Tweaks Local House Seats; and More

POINT AUSTIN
BY MICHAEL KING

20 CITY HALL HUSTLE
BY WELLS DUNBAR

28 ONE DAY AT A TIME The lines start early on distribution day at the St. John Community Food Center

BY MICHAEL KING AND JOHN ANDERSON

ARTS

32 Feral Hogs Invade Laguna Gloria! (Sorta); and All Over Creation

34 WHERE COMEDY LIVES Austin stand-ups have a complex – and it's called the Sandstone Apartments

BY WAYNE ALAN BRENNER

38 EXHIBITIONISM *Big Love*, *Well*, 'Marc Burckhardt + Gustavo Torres'

40 AFTER A FASHION
BY STEPHEN MACMILLAN MOSER

FOOD

43 Dad's Premium Granola; Meal Times: Nov. 25-Dec. 1; and Food-o-File

44 COTTAGE INDUSTRIES Come and bake it
BY MELANIE HAUPT

46 RESTAURANT REVIEW Highland Mall Food Court

47 SECOND HELPINGS Cajun Fever

SCREENS

49 Cinema Club: *Seconds*; and Our Guide to Turkey Day TV

50 THE ART AND THE ARDUOUSNESS Daniel Kliever's hypnotic moving paintings
BY MARC SAVLOV

MUSIC

53 ONE, TWO, TRES, CUATRO Do over – the real debut of 35 years' experience

BY MARGARET MOSER

54 POLSKA METAL Behemoth and Decapitated tore my heart out and left it in Warsaw
BY RAOUL HERNANDEZ

56 TEXAS PLATTERS *KGSR Broadcasts Vol. 19*, *Sons of Fathers*, *Tyrone Vaughan*, and more

58 NEWS OF THE WEIRD

PLUS

Kliever videos
online at
austinchronicle.com

CALENDAR

60 THIS WEEK

Turkey again? What a long, strange tryptophan it's been.

THE ARTS
GAY PLACE

BY KATE X MESSER

DAY TRIPS
BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

SPORTS UT Men's Basketball

SOCCER WATCH
BY NICK BARBARO

66 FILM

Arthur Christmas, *The Descendants*, *Hugo*, *The Muppets*, *My Week With Marilyn*, *The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn – Part 1*

68 SHOWTIMES

72 SPECIAL SCREENINGS

74 MUSIC

RECOMMENDED Tom Russell paints a picture of Texas, plus Wayne "The Train" Hancock's Thanksgiving workout, Band of Heathens' 5-year birthday celebration, Michael Martin Murphey, Wilco, the Border Music of Marc Ribot & David Hidalgo, Crooked Fingers, and more

76 VENUES

81 ROADSHOWS + CLUB LISTINGS

BACK

94 SHOT IN THE DARK

THE LUV DOC

COMIX

MR. SMARTY PANTS

95 CLASSIFIEDS

102 FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

THE AUSTIN **CHRONICLE**

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She grew up in Ukraine, and currently lives in Los Angeles, where she studies economics at USC, dances and practices yoga. She is wearing the Stripe Fisherman's Pullover, Dark Wash High-Waist Jean Cuff Short, Cotton Solid Thigh-High Sock and the Unisex Tennis Shoe.

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The Metaphoric and the Mimetic

A journey

Having come together by chance, many of us stuck together, traveling through the economic hard times that followed. We were always on the move because we were always looking for work. In memory, it seems that for long periods we often ended up not working for months at a time, even though we went out looking for “jobs” every day. We never passed a “Help Wanted” sign – never saw any kind of sign that indicated that there might be something that could be done for which we might earn some pocket change or even something to eat – without checking it out. And we found them.

We had no home, so we were always on the move, which provided little help when it came to finding jobs. I mean, a large party of kids wandering through the neighborhood was not that conducive to hiring just some of them.

We were well-behaved, we worked hard, and we didn't get rowdy or fool around because we knew what happened to the kids that did.

There were a number of toy wagons pulled by kids who were part of this drifting life. We knew that we could hustle empty glass soda bottles for the deposit, as well as gather and turn in soda pop cans. There were always a couple of wagons with old computer parts and some electronic components, as well as a couple of wagons stacked with health-and-safety kits. Over the years, we ended up actually doing quite a bit of work, graduating from small repairs to more ambitious projects.



Still, some mornings – hell, many mornings – you woke up feeling just so battered and bruised back then. Before even remembering what had happened the night before, you would be thinking about your life as being so simple that it was defined by the ways you were being kicked and pitched along this one long, dirty road. It was the way and the

how. You'd hit sleep knowing there wasn't enough time left to cure anything but hopping for at least some patches.

There were still many of those times to come, especially early on, when you woke far more messed up than usual. Now, on those days it usually wasn't so hard to get started, because you were so used to being so completely out of sorts. It was just more of the same during times of more of the same.

It was a tough and a tired time. The only extra resource you had then was you, so if what was needed was you, you were expected to push the pedal all the way down.

This wasn't a war nor a famine. It was a period that seemed to suck all the time – not the first time things were like that nor the last. There wasn't much money, and in my life, at least, no love. When you'd finished one job, there'd be another. When you finished that, there'd be two more. But that was almost all of the geography available to you as you tried to figure what you were doing and how and why.

And we learned. We learned to work together and to rely on one another. We learned who you could depend on to tackle his or her share and more – who would keep going, even if their sections were done, until the job was finished.

And you'd figured out those who would slack, the ones who almost couldn't help but slack. They were always there almost immediately with endless explanations for why they hadn't been there when needed, followed by days of apologies. If you didn't know it before (you probably did), you found out how completely you lived and died by your word; either you kept it or you didn't. No mountains of words or hours of thought could make a difference otherwise. ■

Gobble Till You Wobble

In the spirit of our national day of thankfulness, we are grateful that the *Chronicle* offices will be closed from Thursday, Nov. 24, through the weekend. We will reopen for regular hours on Monday, Nov. 28. Urp.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR must be signed with full name and include daytime phone number, full address, or email address. Letters should be no longer than 300 words. We reserve the right to edit all submissions. Letters may not be edited, added to, or changed by sender once we receive them.

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Postmarks

FOND MEMORIES OF JOE GRACEY

Dear Editor,

My father, Bruce Scafe, is the co-creator of *Austin City Limits* along with Paul Bosner. He was saddened to learn of Joe Gracey's passing and had frequently mentioned him over the years in fond terms ["Joe Gracey RIP" Earache! Music blog, Nov. 17]. Because Joe was so good-natured and did his job at KOKE FM while writing about music at the *Statesman*, it is easy to underestimate his role with *Austin City Limits*.

Joe's musical tastes were mentioned in Jan Reid's *The Improbable Rise of Redneck Rock* and were the impetus for eclectic, progressive country as the primary initial music genre of *Austin City Limits*. Due to Joe Gracey's connections, he booked musical acts for *Austin City Limits*. Sometimes audience attendance was sparse, so he'd broadcast on KOKE FM that Studio 6A at KLRU needed more people for that all-important energy on which musicians thrive. Dad also tapped Joe for the opening announcement copy that Dad wrote for each show, "Recorded live ... from *Austin City Limits*." Together they worked on it to get it just right.

Bruce Scafe's fondest memories of Joe Gracey include hanging out with him outside the Broken Spoke (with Asleep at the Wheel's beat-up old school bus nearby) and other venues as they scouted acts during the creation and formative beginnings of *Austin City Limits*. Joe Gracey was essential to *Austin City Limits*, and it is doubtful that the entire city would be what it is today without him. He will be missed.

Paula Scafe

CLASS DIFFERENCES NOT THE PROBLEM

Dear Editor,

In the Nov. 11 "Page Two," you insinuated that Mexico's and Latin America's problems result from inequality, totally reassigning the cause for the effect. These countries are in the economic state that they are in and suffer the inequality that they do because they have limited rule of law and they have governments who run their economies by handing out favors to preferred recipients. Maybe you are making this point in a roundabout way and implying that we cannot continue on with our system of cronyism (I do not use the term crony capitalism because it is a contradictory term), in which case I agree we should not. However, corporate greed is not the cause, as corporations are comprised of people and people are inherently self-interested (including me, you, every politician, etc.), and I do not expect or wish this to change any time soon. The problem is that the people and the courts have ceded the power to politicians to grant favors and write laws that restrict the many on behalf of the few. So the only logical answer is less power given to government to dole out favors, not more. This seems to be the opposite of what you are suggesting in your column from last week, unless you think that Democrats are less prone to this behavior than Republicans, in which case I would encourage you to re-examine your faith in team blue (same goes for team red apologists).

Adam Johnson

continued on p.8

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NATIONAL-BOARD-CERTIFIED TEACHER SHOCKED BY IDEA SCHOOL

Dear Editor,

As an Austinite and National-Board-Certified Teacher, I was shocked to learn about the IDEA school ["Not Everyone Keen on Charter IDEA," News, Nov. 11]. Thank you for conveying how many of us (teachers) feel. We feel unappreciated, not valuable, and pressured at all times. We are always the last ones to know. I am concerned about how this school is going to "punish" many teachers. Our communities deserve better than that; a lottery of 100 students is not only discriminatory but also detrimental to the Eastside families. The superintendent and board members have a huge responsibility – this school will have major effects over the next 20 years. The last-minute meetings with less than a month's notice and two-minute speeches at Citizen Communication during board meetings only conveys the district's unwillingness to hear from our communities. Please stop bringing other agencies and contractors to fix our problems. Austin is unique, not the Rio Grande Valley. Our community is going to be vigilant on how board members are voting on this IDEA school; we will hold you accountable.

Montserrat Garibay
National-Board-Certified Teacher

ABORTION WORSE THAN PEDOPHILIA

Dear Editor,

The country is fuming with anger about the revelations concerning a former Penn State football coach but says little or nothing about the daily

murders of unborn infants in the womb. Hypocrisy is alive and well and growing in America!

Ephraim Levin
Philadelphia, Pa.

TIME TO COME TO TERMS WITH TEENS HAVING SEX?

Dear Editor,

I appreciate your cynical reporting of Rick Perry's views on sex education in our terribly sexually uneducated state ["Just Say No!," News, Oct. 28]. Isn't it about time that we all come to terms with the fact that most teens will have sex prior to marriage? Abstinence simply is not a realistic policy. How can Perry claim "abstinence works" and that it is the best way to "teach our children" when nothing is being taught whatsoever? Teenagers are going into the process completely blind because they have not been taught how to do it safely and intelligently. Surely he must realize that as the number of teen pregnancies continues to climb, a policy change must go hand in hand. As a fresh college student myself, my somewhat recent experience with sex education in high school consisted of a simple chapter of information in a textbook followed by the required signing of an "abstinence card." Of course, most of these ended up in the trash can by the end of class. Perry's beliefs as well as those mirrored by the current state of sexual education are outdated and unrealistic in a state with such a high teen pregnancy rate.

Tansy Stobart

continued on p.12

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



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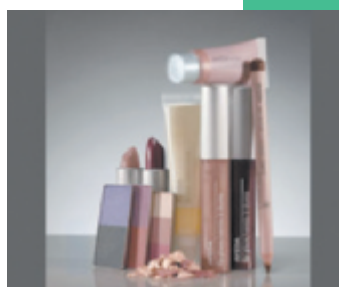
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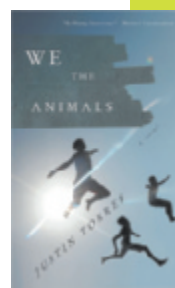


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IDEA PARTNERSHIP CAN WORK

Dear Editor,

Re: "Not Everyone Keen on Charter IDEA" [News, Nov. 11]: Eastside neighborhood parents and Austin school leaders recently took a day trip to IDEA Public Schools in the Rio Grande Valley, and they came away impressed with the spirit and focus of the students, teachers, and staff. The tour was intended to give them an authentic look at what it would be like to have IDEA partner with the Austin Independent School District.

For the past five years, all IDEA students have been accepted into a college or university. That's something we can't say about students enrolled at Eastside Memorial now or at any time in recent history. Despite the best efforts of all involved, the district is searching for a way to support Eastside Memorial, and surrounding schools, in providing college-ready results. The AISD IDEA plan deserves thoughtful community support.

IDEA knows how to get low-income students college ready and has a proven track record of doing just that in its valley schools. East Austin parents should keep an open mind and view the proposal as a real chance for student success. The in-district charter school would be a true partnership with the school district and the neighbor-

Oops! Due to an editing error, a story in last week's News section ("Tire Slasher Convicts Himself"), Lisa Harris was incorrectly identified as co-vice president of the Hyde Park Neighborhood Association. Harris is president of HPNA.



hood, not a takeover as some have suggested.

This partnership can work – and it can transform the lives of thousands of East Austin students who deserve a shot at the best public education we can provide. Similar partnerships have worked in Houston, Galveston, San Antonio, Dallas, and many more districts around the state. AISD is right to put forth an innovative plan that embraces best practices from a proven public charter school system.

Josie Duckett, Texas Charter Schools Association, VP public and government affairs
Matthew Randazzo, IDEA Public Schools, chief growth officer
[Richard Whittaker responds: Having spoken to several people that took part in the trip to the IDEA school and also having watched testimony

during citizens' communication at the most recent AISD board meeting, it is clear that not everyone was "impressed" by the experience. There are still many questions to be answered about the proposal to let the writers' employers take over several AISD campuses.]

MORTON CONVICTED ON ANDERSON'S THEORY, NOT FACTS

Dear Editor,

Twenty-five years ago Williamson County District Attorney Ken Anderson sent Michael Morton to prison for life for killing his own wife ["Morton Prosecutor Wrote the Book on Crime," News, Nov. 18]. Ten years later Anderson wrote a book in which he said: "My theory of the crime was that after returning home [from an evening out], he wanted to have sex. When she said no, he savagely beat her to death."

District attorneys are not supposed to convict people on theories. They are required by the Constitution to convict on facts beyond a reasonable doubt. It is very clear from this case that some people in Williamson County believe that their gut feelings trump our Constitution. If there is justice now in Williamson County, Ken Anderson will soon find himself standing before a court to defend this miscarriage of justice. I'm sure that he will demand that the case be tried

on facts and not theories, something he denied Morton. Regardless of whether Anderson ever spends a day in prison for this disaster, there is no denying that he sent an innocent man to prison and allowed a killer to walk our streets and perhaps kill again. How many other innocent men from Williamson County have gone to prison, and how many other killers are walking our streets because of Ken Anderson and his office?

Clifton Smith

OFFICER'S ACTIONS DISGUSTING

Dear Editor,

I am tired of the police reserving the right to use excessive and unnecessary force because they feel or think they can. I think some police officers are a little too quick to use their guns.

This weekend, I read an article in the *Austin American-Statesman* about a police officer named Mark Lytle who killed a dog outside of the North Loop Food Store.

I am appalled and shocked at Officer Lytle's actions. According to the article, witnesses said that Lytle created the tense situation by trying to grab the dog and overreacted when the dog did not cooperate and then shot it. The dog appeared to belong to someone as it had a leash and collar on.

continued on p.14

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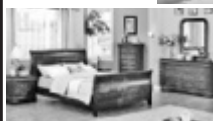
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POSTMARKS continued from p.12

On the local Austin news, the reporter said that Lytle was trained to handle animals and had experience with animals. Clearly he did not. If you know anything about animals you aren't familiar with, you don't approach them. Why was Lytle trying to take this dog to begin with? When the dog didn't comply by going with a stranger, did Officer Lytle feel it was necessary to shoot the dog and create a violent and dangerous situation in a crowded area? Why didn't he call animal control?

Even if it is true that he worked with animals, it is not his job to handle animals since he does not have the appropriate training.

Lytle's actions are disgusting. Because you have a gun and wear a badge doesn't mean you can abuse that power. Killing a scared animal does not make you a hero, and it certainly doesn't justify killing a dog that you provoked. I would bite a stranger too if I didn't know what their intentions were. Your job is to protect and serve. You caused a potentially harmful scene. I believe Lytle needs to be fired. What happened to common sense?

This dog would still be alive if Lytle hadn't shown up. The dog was not posing a threat to anyone.

Thanks,
Anna Obek

WHAT EVERYONE KNOWS: IT'S REPREHENSIBLE

Dear Editor,

Regarding the pedophile scandal at Penn State University, I would summarize what everyone knows: It's reprehensible. Most people, if witnessing a child being sodomized, would intervene, if not cause serious bodily injury to the perpetrator. (Also ridiculous was the riot that occurred when the coach was rightfully removed; this was Idiot Drunk Jock Syndrome, which is not to cast aspersions on drunk jocks per se.)

Society in general is very repulsed by this type of crime. A person I know exclaimed, "He [the perp] is married?!" as if he could

only have been a homosexual. Pedophiles are opportunists, the majority being heterosexual, and often do not discriminate in the gender of their victims.

There is a pervasive worldwide child sex ring network. The mafia, which in the past has scorned this particular perverse proclivity, has reportedly been more involved recently. This is perplexing because more women have risen to the top echelons of organized crime.

I admire Ashton Kutcher for being an outspoken activist in this issue. He ran afoul of *The Village Voice* for criticizing its back page ads, claiming it promotes child prostitution. He caused a firestorm when he Twittered support for the offending coach, without any of the facts in the case. The derision directed at him for that mistake indicates society's disdain for these people, who, if they could be magically and justifiably eradicated from the world, would cause a perceptively larger dent in the population than most people realize. And I am referring to true pedophilia, abuse of very young and prepubescent children. Adolescents, while they should be protected, are a different consideration; as sexually mature individuals they usually have some choice in the matter, regardless of the letter of the law.

Sincerely,
Kenney C. Kennedy

AMERICA'S SELF-CENTERED THINKING

Dear Editor,

For a country that prides itself on independent thought, we are all too self-centered and narrow-minded. It's my way or the highway, as they say. I heard Rick Perry state the other day that you can't be pro-choice and pro-life also. Hey, Rick, the last time I checked, I can believe whatever I want. You do have good hair though! I don't believe in abortion, but it is not my decision to make. I have three daughters that I would counsel for them to have the child if they became pregnant, but I would stand beside them no matter their decision. I love them, and that will never change.

Greg Sibert

continued on p.16

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POSTMARKS continued from p.14

WHY DID THE BUILDINGS FALL STRAIGHT DOWN?

Dear Editor,

Michael Ventura's article ["Letters at 3AM: The Mob, 9/11, and Your Garbage," Oct. 21] has convinced me that World Trade Center buildings were constructed of untested concrete that was probably less than the specs called for. I hope that he also has a theory explaining why all three WTC buildings fell straight down into their own footprints even though it is said that they were not brought down by controlled detonations.

I have read *The 9/11 Commission Report* (567 pp., paper), *The 9/11 Investigations* by Stephen Strasser and Craig R. Whitney (580 pp., paper), and many more things than space will allow me to list, and the issue is totally ignored in all of these official reports.

Until this issue of the buildings falling straight down is put to rest, I will always wonder.

Dan Crow

AN ARTIST RIPPING OFF WORKERS

Dear Editor,

Recently, while perusing the "all jobs" category of Craigslist, I ran upon this post: "Immediately now hiring assistant's to help artist create art work You will be working outside. Work is throughout the day and also during the evening.

"Location: Austin, TX Compensation: \$10 per completed piece; each piece may take 2 hours to complete."

I immediately shot off an angry email. While I admit my words were unnecessarily harsh, and not appropriate for reproduction, the audacity of some artist to unapologetically offer less than minimum wage for working into the evening really wound me up. The "right to work" idea has been a great tool of the so-called 1% to naturalize the extreme inequity which has become America's calling card, but arts practitioners rarely concede the degree to which art practice follows their lead. Fewer artists these days produce their own work, perhaps because the model of conceptual art no longer affords value to "work" done with one's own hands, any more than the author of "The 4-Hour Workweek." As usual, art follows life, and just as the author of that book recommends outsourcing one's salaried job duties to Third World countries, artists happily accept that their unique genius and educational pedigree suffice to infuse their creations with divine aura, without dirtying their hands. To the artist I offer this advice: Pay minimum wage or show me that you live on \$10,000 a year, the implied annual salary for someone who works 40 hours a week at \$5 per hour. Or do the long, tedious labor yourself; it will show the strength of your conviction.

Brad Bordine

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NEWS



Despite his arrest, this Occupy Austin participant appears to have the last word as police place him in a van at Occupy's Day of Action on Nov. 17.

Holiday Hunger

While helping our neighbors, consider the structures of poverty

BY MICHAEL KING

Among the many subjects unaddressed in the seemingly endless series of Republican presidential debates is that of persistent American poverty. Perhaps it's just as well; amid the full-throated endorsements of endless war and unlimited torture ("I'll support [waterboarding] until the day I die!" declared Gov. Rick Perry), one can only imagine what paroxysms of condescension the subject of the undeserving poor would evoke from most of the GOP field. In their gated universe, poor people exist only because of personal inanition or Barack Obama, and the only solutions are "personal responsibility" and even more official deference to the demands of the most wealthy: the "job creators."

Back on Earth, earlier this month the U.S. Census Bureau released newly adjust-

ed data on nationwide poverty; the 2010 Supplemental Poverty Measure reflects that fully 16% of Americans live in poverty, or roughly 3 million more than the current "official" standard (15.2%), which doesn't account either for programs that help children (thus lowering their poverty rate) nor costs (e.g., rising medical expenses) that primarily hurt older Americans, increasing the rate for all those older than 17. In Texas – or what Perry describes as the job creators' paradise known as the "Texas Miracle" – the rates of poverty and hunger are predictably higher, with the official poverty rate cresting at nearly 19%.

Consulting the statistics on hunger on the Capital Area Food Bank of Texas website is as illuminating as it is distressing. In its 21-county area, the CAFB serves some

48,000 people every week, 300,000 annually (of the nearly 450,000 Central Texans who routinely endure "food insecurity"). Forty-one percent of the clients are children; more than a third of the elderly clients spend extended periods without food; 82% of those in need are not homeless, and nearly half live in a home with at least one working adult.

The statistics reflect that the thousands of needy people in Central Texas are, in great part, not indigent folks on Downtown street corners begging for spare change. They are our neighbors.

By the Numbers

Numbers on that scale reflect a reality quite different from trickle-down mythologies of Republican candidates. The numbers inscribe hunger and poverty that is structural, not incidental, not random fail-

continued on p.20

Headlines

- The horn of plenty's gone empty this week at City Hall: **City Council** doesn't meet until Dec. 8, for its second-to-last meeting of the year. "City Hall Hustle" rounds up the scraps on p.20.
- Here's a holiday heart-warmer: Travelers can expect **longer lines** and advanced imaging technology "**body scanners**" at **Austin-Bergstrom International Airport**. ABIA officials advise travelers to get to the airport at least two hours early and note that the security queue for early-morning flights may take as long as 60 minutes. At least ABIA's new **cell-phone waiting area** – free parking for drivers waiting to pick up travelers, located off the airport service/cargo exit – is now open.
- On Monday, two **Occupy Austin** protesters arrested outside City Hall filed suit against the city, claiming that their subsequent "banning" from the premises was a violation of their **First Amendment rights**. Texas Civil Rights Project Director Jim Harrington, an attorney acting on behalf of plaintiffs Rudy Sanchez and Kris Sleeman, said, "The use of criminal charges plus the banning order is a 'one-two punch' against protesters' rights and creates an inherent potential of abuse and retaliation by city authorities, which is exactly what seems to be the situation." An "administrative bulletin" signed by City Manager **Marc Ott** on Nov. 1 – after the Occupy protests started – allows officials to "control and maintain" city property in part by issuing criminal trespass notices for a variety of "disruptive" acts.
- The **Austin ISD board of trustees** split 6-3 on Nov. 21 to create a resource-sharing and collaboration compact with **charter school groups**. At the same meeting, the board heard massive community push-back against their plans to turn the Eastside Memorial Vertical Team into an independent charter run by the controversial **IDEA Public Schools** group. See "AISD Parents, Teachers a Tough Sell," p.26.

JOHN ANDERSON

- Republican lawmakers are scrambling to find ways to protect their recent gerrymandering. On Nov. 17, a three-judge panel issued **new Texas House and Senate maps**, and at press time was working on new congressional maps, but Speaker Joe Straus has said he may go to the U.S. Supreme Court if the panel does not redraw their redrawn lines. See "New Map Tweaks Local House Seats," p.26.

- More bad polling news for Gov. **Rick Perry's** presidential aspirations: With the New Hampshire presidential primary scheduled for Jan. 10, Gov. Goodhair is in seventh place at **2%**. With a 4.9% margin of error, that means Perry may actually be polling zero.

- On Nov. 17, **Austin Water** turned on the new **reclaimed water system** at **Austin-Bergstrom International Airport**, which the utility says will save more than 25 million gallons of potable water each year. Next in line is UT-Austin, scheduled to begin using reclaimed water in its cooling towers by next summer.

- The last showdown: With Texas A&M headed to the Southeastern Conference, Thanksgiving sees the **final game** in the century-old **Aggies vs. Longhorns football rivalry**. Kickoff is at 7pm in College Station.



QUOTE of the WEEK



JANA BIRCHUM

"We care about kids and education, and that's the bottom line."

– Education Austin co-President Ken Zarifis, firing back at AISD's claim that teachers only care about their jobs

ures of opportunity but the economic bottom of the Texas wage market, where roughly a fifth of Texas families are routinely expected to live at a subsistence level, and the rest of us, paycheck to paycheck – and most of us just a layoff or medical emergency from financial disaster and the food pantry line. As the CAFB's John Turner wrote in London's *The Guardian* earlier this year: "To place it in perspective, the minimum wage is \$7.25 per hour, or \$14,500 per year. This type of wage and job creation doesn't create a living, much less long-term prosperity. According to the Center for Public Policy Priorities, an average family without employer sponsored health insurance living in the Austin area must earn \$53,080 at a minimum to make ends meet."

As difficult as it is to survive on \$7.25 an hour, among the many nostrums peddled by Perry and his ideological allies (including the sainted Ron Paul) is that any minimum-wage laws at all constitute overregulation and socialist meddling in the "free market." That's the paradisaical clime where workers are free to negotiate "on a level playing field" with their corporate employers, who are equally free to hire and fire them by the gross, and attempts by workers to unionize and bargain collectively are literally outlawed for the benefit of those same corporations. (For some reason, the latter is not "meddling in the free market"; it's defending your inalienable "right to work.") The point is, poverty on this scale is not accidental; it's manufactured by the people who claim to be creating jobs when in fact their overriding goal is holding down wages and thereby keeping "the labor market" – you and me – soft, cheap, and "disciplined."

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

I gathered all those grim statistics in the wake of a morning spent visiting, with

Chronicle photographer John Anderson, the St. John Community Food Center (see "One Day at a Time," p.28). As you can see from John's photos, the need is real, the response energetic, and – despite the difficult circumstances – the staff, volunteers, and clients exhibit a great deal of grace under pressure. This is the time of year when the *Chronicle* receives growing numbers of solicitations for charity events and food drives, and we do our best to list, recount, or advertise many of them. I suspect most of our readers – not the highest-paid demographic themselves – are involved directly in many of those efforts.

If you're still looking for a way to help, the CAFB is a very good place to start. It makes it very easy to donate through your workplace, place of worship, clubs or other organizations, or directly on its website (www.austinfoodbank.org/how-to-help), and the food bank knows how to stretch any dollar it receives into five dollars' worth of food – and "96% of your gift goes directly to support the programs serving your neighbors in need." The CAFB and all its partner agencies also rely overwhelmingly on volunteerism, so if you have more time to give than money, the food bank can certainly use that, too.

Even as we cringe at the hypocritical spectacle of the political campaigns, at the other end of the current spectrum is the Occupy Movement, which has shifted the national political discussion away from "tax cuts" and "deficit reduction" toward fighting inequality and restoring political and economic justice. That's not a fight we are likely to win easily or quickly. In the meantime, we still need to do what we can to help our neighbors, who, despite living in the "Texas Miracle," find themselves struggling for the resources to make it through this holiday season in hard times.

Please do what you can. ■

Follow @PointAustin on Twitter.

CIVICS 101

FRIDAY 25

OCCUPY AUSTIN FAMILY FUN

Bring Grandma and the kids to the encampment site today to bring family awareness to the topics of Occupy at this one-day event. 4:30-7:30pm. 301 W. Second.

SATURDAY 26

STATE CAPITOL OCCUPATION All day. State Capitol lawn. For info, email infoscribes@occupyaustin.org.

MONDAY 28

AUSTIN ISD PUBLIC HEARING on the district's proposed **Facility Master Plan**; sign up by 6:15pm to speak. 6-8pm. Carruth Administration Center Auditorium, 1111 W. Sixth.

DESIGN FOR RESILIENCE

Opening reception for an exhibit of work by UT School of Architecture students on how Austin can use design to respond with resilience

to climate change, with a focus on East Austin. Through Dec. 3. 4:30pm, Austin City Hall atrium.

TUESDAY 29

IMPACT FEE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

discusses the 2012 updates to the city's impact fee land-use assumptions and capital improvements program. 6pm. Waller Creek Plaza, 625 E. 10th, Rm. 104.

AISD COMMUNITY BOND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

meets to discuss updates on bond projects. 6-9pm. Carruth Administration Center Auditorium, 1111 W. Sixth.

WEDNESDAY 30

DOCUMENTARY SCREENING:

'ONE WATER' takes a global approach to exploring our relationship to this limited resource. 7pm. Jones Auditorium, Ragsdale Center, St. Edward's University,

3001 S. Congress. Questions? Contact Meredith Schmittow: meris@stedwards.edu.

THURSDAY 01

CHARTER REVISION COMMITTEE

considers geographic representation (aka single-member district) proposals and hears citizen input. 6pm, Carver Branch Library, 1161 Angelina.

ONGOING

IMAGINE AUSTIN INPUT EXTENDED

Public input for the draft version of the city's Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan has been extended until Dec. 15. You can review the document, comment on the plan, and take a "priorities" survey online at www.imagineaustin.net.

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A Movable Feast

CITY DATA, APPS, AND MORE TURKEY TALK

With the year coming to a close and spring around the corner, it's time for a fresh series of announcements and **local citizen engagement**.

I'm talking, of course, about Austin's latest steps in the long-awaited **redesign of the city's website**. (What, you thought I was talking about something else?)

By now, you're excused if it seems like chatter about updates and improvements to the city website are as perennial as City Council elections. Browsing the **Austin Government Online** page, or Austin GO, one's reminded that the city began soliciting input to overhaul its website (www.cityofaustin.org) back in 2007. When we checked in with the effort a year and a half later (see "The Genius of the Crowd ... Source," June 5, 2009), the effort had basically been rebooted anew as local coders crashed plans to award the redesign contract to an out-of-state tech firm – a slap in the face to Silicon Hills development talent.

So yes, efforts to give Austin a website that reflects our techie bona fides – and more importantly, offers a greater utility to residents by way of **online utility payments, greater data availability**, and dozens of other features clamored for by redesign proponents – have repeatedly been delayed. But it looks like the load time is finally shrinking some.

Starting next week, the city will begin a series of **"Sneak Peek and User Testing Sessions"** to optimize and debug what will ultimately be the new municipal website. (The sessions start Tuesday, Nov. 29; head to – where else? – the city's website to learn more.)

Although delays and the occasional misstep have slowed the redesign process, it's fascinating to think where we'd be if it hadn't. For instance, think of **the smartphone and app explosion** that's occurred in the past four years. All those apps require raw material – data – for tapping and scrolling. And one of the most exciting components of the redesign is **the assortment of data sets** the city will release, which enterprising programmers, us journos, and citizens alike can mine and refine.

We got a preview of the possibilities earlier this year during the protracted debate over changes to **pay-parking hours Downtown**, when council ultimately recommended that data on parking availability be aggregated so third parties can craft applications directing hapless Downtown drivers to where they might find a spot.

The city already has some nifty applications tucked away on its website – the Austin Police Department's **CrimeViewer** (www.austintx.gov/police/crimeinformation.htm) maps offenses down to the block, and an indexed, searchable listing of **Health and Human Services' restaurant inspection scores** (www.austintx.gov/health/restaurant/search.cfm) has become a popular lunchtime link here at *Chron* HQ. But the promise of the city releasing all this information – encompassing transportation and public safety and health intel, plus demographics, development, lobbyists, and more, all in accessible data sets – will be an asset to start-ups, data journalists, and the citizenry at large. They're currently taking submissions for what data sets you want the city to provide: See this column online for a link and to add your voice.

SIDE DISHES

While **Thanksgiving** means a plentiful bounty of carbs and football – at least for the more fortunate among us – it's strictly reheated leftovers at City Hall for the next few weeks. (That's fine for the Hustle, playing catch-up after two weeks away following his **marriage to the beautiful Mrs. Hustle**.) City Council is similarly on sabbatical, not convening for a full meeting until Dec. 8, then ending the year with a final meeting the following week, Dec. 15. As the chambers grow cold, council elections are beginning to heat up with **Mayor Lee Leffingwell** and council members **Mike Martinez** and **Bill Spelman** all announcing their re-election intentions and naming campaign teams. The only member up for re-election yet to do so is **Mayor Pro Tem Sheryl Cole**, as speculation mounts on whether she'll run again for Place 6 or challenge the mayor.

Still, there's unfinished business before winter hibernation begins in earnest. Another election question – what form of **geographic council representation** should the city put before voters next year – will get further vetting from the **2012 Charter Revision Committee**, which meets Dec. 1 at the George Washington Carver Library. And of course, the current council consideration of the **Downtown Austin Plan** – largely revolving around the dispute over whether to preserve Central Urban Redevelopment **zoning** allowing additional density Downtown or to scrap CURE, leaving only the city's Downtown Density Bonus program in place – may see resolution when it returns for second and third readings at council's Dec. 8 get-together. ■



The Hustle's daily blog will resume after Thanksgiving. In the meantime, load up on "likes" at www.facebook.com/cityhallhustle.

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Fork in the Road on Sixth Street

The **Sixth Street Austin Association** is not known for contentious politics, but a recent clash over its board membership has raised some eyebrows. Now stakeholders and property owners are wondering whether it was just a symbolic changing of the guard or whether it marks a major change for one of Downtown's most powerful voices.

At the annual board meeting on Nov. 9, Alamo Drafthouse CEO **Tim League** (who recently acquired his second Sixth Street property this year) was standing down as the association's chair. As required by its bylaws, the nominations committee had submitted a slate of candidates for offices, so League arrived at the meeting expecting a smooth transition to the new board. Then, Realtor and Sixth Street property owner **Carl Daywood** walked in with a block of more than 40 proxy votes "and voted in his own board," League said. As a result, all board members up for re-election – including board vice-chair and League's presumptive successor, Wild About Music CEO **Fred Schmidt** – were dumped and replaced by new names on Daywood's slate. Daywood himself described the situation as simply "the democratic process at work." He said, "Every annual election they've always had proxy voting, but to my knowledge we had the biggest turnout we've ever had, either physically present or proxies from the property owners."

Schmidt was far less conciliatory. "If you call an ambush democracy, then I guess OK," he said. "Was the vote democratic? Yes. But was it necessary or justified? Absolutely not." When Schmidt heard that a surprisingly large number of members of the association requested proxy votes prior to the election, he contacted Daywood to discuss meeting attendance. Daywood gave him no clue about the coup, instead saying that he might not even attend the meeting. Schmidt noted that Daywood's supporters include some of the traditionally least engaged members of the association. In fact, only two members of what he called "Carl's ambush party" had thrown their hats into the ring to be vetted by the nominating committee. However, even with his proxy votes, Daywood was forced to accept some names from the original committee slate. "Had we known that there was some kind of crazy overthrow brewing," Schmidt said, "we would have been able to get additional votes to not have this succeed. However, the organization was caught blindsided."

The seven blocks of East Sixth Street west of I-35 are a hub for competing Downtown interests and groups. While the property owners' association is seen as the political talking shop, dealing with big-picture issues, the **Pecan Street Merchants' Association** runs events like the annual **Pecan Street Festival**. Overlying this are the business-centric **Downtown Austin Alliance** and residents' **Downtown Austin Neighborhood Association**, both of which are paying close attention to any possible ripples from this changing of

the guard. "We have a pretty clear vision of where we are wanting to go, and I am optimistic about working with the new board," said Josh Allen, executive director and the sole employee of the Sixth Street Austin Association.

However, the new board may bring old feuds bubbling back to the surface. League said there were "personality conflicts" with Daywood last year, and the executive committee rejected his request to become chair. As a result, Daywood resigned from the board. (When asked about his exit, Daywood declined to comment, simply saying, "I did not want to dedicate my time and energy on the direction [the association] was going.") Even with these latest events, League extended an olive branch. "Carl's really passionate about the street," League said, "and he's very much into the



Some Downtown stakeholders want Sixth Street to be as much a destination spot during the day as it is at night.

historic preservation of the district, as am I." In turn, Daywood praised the outgoing board, calling League "a good leader." However, Schmidt said the board bent over backward to get Daywood and his allies involved during the past year but was constantly rebuffed. They "had absolutely no reason or justification to do what they did," he said.

The question now is whether the new lineup marks a new agenda for the group. Under League and the old board, the association's policy centered on making Sixth Street an 18-hour-a-day, seven-days-a-week entertainment district, balancing its reputation as a weekend party destination with daytime activities and round-the-clock shopping and dining. Daywood, however, is highly critical of proposals such as making Sixth Street part of the city's Great Streets Program – a public works street-enhancement endeavor – and argues it could endanger its national historic district status. There has also been an undeniable tension among long-term tenants,

some who fear that the growth of adult-only shot bars makes the district less friendly to retailers, live music, and residents.

There may have already been consequences from the potential board shuffle. On Nov. 10, City Council was scheduled to vote to renew the **East Sixth Street Public Improvement District**, but Council Member **Mike Martinez** moved to postpone the vote until the Dec. 8 meeting. Sixth Street has been a PID since 2004, when the association – then known as the Pecan Street Owners Association – contracted with the city to run the PID. The provisional PID budget for 2012 dedicates \$135,880 toward infrastructure improvements, marketing, and administration, funded by a mixture of a taxes on Sixth Street property owners and contributions from the association and the city. Martinez asked his fellow council members to delay the vote "in light of some new information ... and a request from some of the property owners." Allen said, "My understanding is they



PHOTOS BY RICHARD WHITTAKER

just had a few questions they wanted to make sure they got answered before they felt comfortable casting a vote."

League will remain chair of the board until the next meeting (date to be determined), when the board will elect its new leadership, and after that, he will keep a seat reserved for the retiring chair. But that's not the only reason he and Daywood may have to learn to coexist. Six months ago, League purchased 313 E. Sixth – infamously the former home of Midnight Cowboy Modeling and Oriental Massage – and on Nov. 15, he told the *Chronicle* that the Drafthouse had just closed on property at 614 E. Sixth, which currently houses Klub Krucial. The plan is to convert the back and second floor of the building into the new head office for the Drafthouse, while the front will become 500 square feet of leased retail. League said he's working with DAA Associate Director Molly Alexander "to find some cool tenants."

– Richard Whittaker



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LCRA Close To Capping Utility Sales

Lower Colorado River Authority board Chair **Tim Timmerman** is in the habit of announcing the presence of the local dignitaries who attend the organization's monthly board meetings. For the past several months, his introductions have included a roster of Central Texans who have done their level best to convince Timmerman and his colleagues that the LCRA should sell some 30 municipal **water and wastewater utilities** to a coalition of regional municipalities and not to a private company. A chunk of the group's pitch – indeed, any moral high ground the coalition might hold in what's become a protracted battle for the utilities – is its promise that it would fend off attempts from distant corporate entities, which the coalition members fear will hike their water rates to unaffordable levels if they acquired the utilities.

Moral high ground or no, the coalition – formally called the Coalition of Central Texas Utilities Development Corporation – may be left, if not entirely out in the cold, at least without the bulk of their target: On Nov. 21, the LCRA board voted to authorize exclusive negotiations with Vancouver-based private utility **Corix Infrastructure**

Inc. for the right to purchase 18 of the utility's water and wastewater systems. Though the board awarded the same exclusivity to the coalition for the **West Travis County Regional Water and Wastewater Systems**, it also gave Corix the right of first refusal to acquire those systems should a deal with the coalition fall through – a very real possibility.

When the board convened a week ago, on Nov. 16, head of the coalition **Pix Howell** wasn't, as he put it, ready to count his chickens, but right about then things were looking up. The LCRA had first announced its intention to seek buyers for the water and wastewater systems in November 2010; common wisdom was that the systems, spread across the organization's vast service area, simply cost too much for the LCRA to operate and maintain. A September resolution from the LCRA board instructed staff to work out a deal with Corix and another private firm, but Howell's group had fought its way past the board's initial instructions to the brink of acquiring at least a slice of what it was after. (See "West Lake Comes Out Swinging Against LCRA," Aug. 12.) And as LCRA board mem-



The LCRA board on Nov. 21 authorized General Manager Becky Motal to negotiate the sale of 18 of its water and wastewater systems in the Hill Country and LCRA's southeast service area to Canadian-based Corix Infrastructure Inc.

ber **Tom Martine** began to read that morning's version of the board's instructions – which included directions to LCRA staff to negotiate and conclude an agreement with the coalition – it seemed as if things might have taken at least a partial turn in favor of Howell and his organization.

As it turned out, Howell was right not to count his chickens. The board made only a fraction of its water and wastewater utilities available for sale to the West Travis County coalition. It also followed its initial instructions with a second resolution that would have directed staff to attempt a deal

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Discipline of APD Officer Still Uncertain

Austin Police Chief **Art Acevedo** this week told the Texas Attorney General's Office that he'll need more time before making a determination about whether to discipline Officer **Nathan Wagner**, responsible for the



May shooting death of 20-year-old **Byron Carter**, a passenger in a car that Wagner and his partner were attempting to stop. State civil service law provides a six-month window for police officials to impose discipline – anything from a reprimand to termination – based on the outcome of an administrative inquiry into whether department policies or procedures were violated during a given incident. In a press statement, Acevedo said he's asking for the extension because a criminal inquiry into the incident is ongoing and the case has not yet been presented to a Travis County grand jury. To conclude the administrative inquiry – by either clearing Wagner or imposing some discipline while the criminal investigation is ongoing – would “substantially affect the integrity of the pending criminal investigation,” he said. **Adam Loewy**, the Carter family's attorney, was not pleased. “We are very disappointed with this delaying tactic,” he said. “Justice delayed is justice denied.” (For more, see “Carter Called Home Before Fatal Police Shooting,” Oct. 21.)

– **Jordan Smith**

with Corix should negotiations with the coalition falter. But the topper was a seeming contractual poison pill: An instruction included in a memorandum of understanding stipulated that the coalition must somehow dispatch with a rate case brought against the LCRA by the members of the West Travis systems by Wednesday, Nov. 23. (As of press time, it was unclear if this would be possible.)

After months of negotiations, resolutions, meetings with officials, and much public scrutiny of a major mission shift for the organization, however, the LCRA board was unable to pass the second action involving Corix. Three of the board's 15 directors – former Pflugerville Mayor **John Franklin**, **Lori Berger**, and board Secretary **Kathleen Hartnett White** – voted against the Corix resolution. With board member **Franklin Scott Spears** – husband of Gov. **Rick Perry**'s director of appointments **Teresa Spears** – absent, the vote was one short of the 12 needed for affirmation.

"It's almost comical," Howell said Nov. 18. Even Howell's typically optimistic view saw the two resolutions as the product of board frustration with the process. In the worst case, Howell suggested subterfuge. "They [may have] set it up so that Corix ... gets the systems," he suggested.

That brings us to Monday morning (Nov. 21). Just after board members concluded their business on Nov. 16, word came down

that they would be back for another meeting less than a week later. This time, it took less than an hour for all the ducks to line up: With directors **John Dickerson** and White absent, the board voted 13-0 to move forward with negotiations to sell 18 of the utilities to Corix. The LCRA will hang on to its West Lake Hills utility but will try to contract with Corix to run that system as well as any others it keeps. After the meeting, Franklin told local tip sheet In Fact Daily that he was able to answer financial questions he had. He also suggested he'd been swayed by the fact that the residents of Lometa, in Lampasas County (whose system would be included in the Corix purchase), would have right of first refusal over any future purchaser.

As he closed Monday's meeting, Timmerman took pains to emphasize that "96 percent of our customers will end up in public hands, or still with the LCRA." That figure presumably included the potential sale of the West Travis systems to the coalition. Whatever the final tally, the sales are far from their conclusion: Even if Corix and the LCRA are able to settle on a deal, the sale must still be approved by the **Texas Commission on Environmental Quality**. Still, there will no doubt be some level of public opposition to that end – for proof, one need look no further than the lengthy rate case that the LCRA is so eager to dispose of. Stay tuned.

– Mike Kanin

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El Anatsui, Oasis (detail), 2008, Aluminum and copper wire, 106 x 90 inches. Photo courtesy: Jane Katcher/Peter Harholdt

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Generous funding for this exhibition at The Blanton is provided by Jeanne and Michael Klein with additional support from Becky Beaver and John Duncan, the Berman Family Foundation, Michael Chesser, Melanie Lawson and John Guess, Jr., Marilyn Oshman, and the Alice Kleberg Reynolds Foundation.

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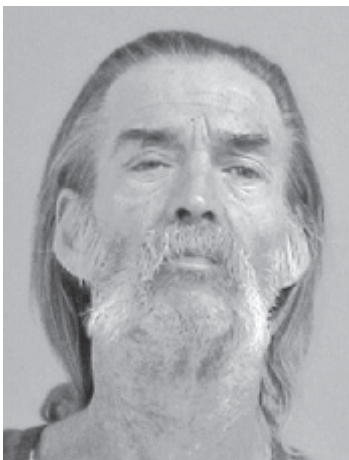
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Sticking to His Guns on the Wrong Guy

To hear former Williamson County Sheriff's Sgt. **Don Wood** tell it, **Michael Morton** should still be in prison serving out a life sentence for killing his wife, Christine, in 1986. Morton may have been released, but "he shouldn't be," Wood told lawyers during a deposition last month taken as part of an inquiry into whether police or prosecutors engaged in misconduct during the investigation and trial of Morton for his wife's bludgeoning murder. Morton was freed after spending 25 years in prison for the crime – which DNA evidence taken from a bandana found near the crime scene now proves he did not commit. Over the course of the 170-page deposition, Wood repeatedly says he can't remember much at all about the crime or the investigation; after suffering a series of strokes, he tells Morton attorney **John Raley**, his memory "bounces around here and there." Still, Wood says he would have turned over all of his investigative documents to then-District Attorney **Ken Anderson** for prosecution; Anderson, now a district judge, is at the center of the contro-



Mark Alan Norwood has been charged with the 1986 murder of Christine Morton and is suspected in the death of Debra Masters Baker.

versy over whether key information and exculpatory evidence – including information that Christine's credit card, taken during the murder, had been used two days after her death in San Antonio – was deliberately kept from Morton's defense. For his part,

Wood says he remembers something about the credit card information, but "I don't remember what it was," he told Raley.

Another man, **Mark Alan Norwood**, has been arrested and charged with Christine's murder after he was matched to the DNA taken from the bloody bandana. Norwood's DNA also matches evidence from the 1988 bludgeoning death in Austin of **Debra Masters Baker** – not only a likely victim of Norwood's, but likely also a victim of the tunnel vision created by Williamson County officials responsible for the investigation and prosecution of Morton.

Anderson has also been deposed; at press time, that deposition had not yet been released. (For more on the case, see "Morton Prosecutor Wrote the Book on Crime," Nov. 18.)

– Jordan Smith

the hightower report

BY JIM HIGHTOWER

AMERICA'S GOOD FOOD MOVEMENT

What better day than Thanksgiving to celebrate our country's food rebels?

I'm talking about the growing movement of small farmers, food artisans, local retailers, co-ops, community organizers, restaurateurs, environmentalists, consumers, and others – perhaps including you. This movement has spread the rich ideas of sustainability; organic, local economies; and the **common good** from the fringe of our food economy into the mainstream.

It began as an "upchuck rebellion" – ordinary folks rejecting the industrialized, chemicalized, corporatized, and globalized food system. Farmers wanted a more natural connection to the good earth that they were working. Meanwhile, consumers began seeking edibles that were not saturated with pesticides, injected with antibiotics, ripened with chemicals, dosed with artificial flavorings, or otherwise tortured.

These two interests began to find each other and create an alternative way of think-

ing about food. Today, more than 13,000 organic farmers produce everything from wheat to meat, and organic sales top nearly \$27 billion this year. Some 7,000 vibrant **farmers' markets** operate in practically every city and town across the land, linking farmers and food makers directly to consumers in a local, supportive economy. Restaurants, supermarkets, food wholesalers, and school districts are now buying foodstuffs that are produced sustainably and locally.

This shift did not come from corporate or governmental powers – it percolated up from the grassroots. And it's spreading, as ordinary people inform themselves, organize locally, and assert their own democratic values over those of the corporate structure.

Family by family, town by town, this good food movement has changed not only the market but also the culture of food. As you, your family, and friends sit down for a good meal this Thanksgiving, celebrate this change, which is truly worthy of our thanks.

For more information on Jim Hightower's work – and to subscribe to his award-winning monthly newsletter, "The Hightower Lowdown" – visit www.jimhightower.com. You can hear his radio commentaries on KOOP Radio 91.7FM, weekdays at 10:58am and 12:58pm.

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One Day at a Time

Distribution day at the St. John Community Food Center

BY MICHAEL KING

PHOTOS BY JOHN ANDERSON

Every Wednesday morning, the St. John Community Food Center opens for business at 9am. But the lines outside the door – one for returning clients, one for new – begin forming several hours earlier. Last Wednesday, Oliver Taylor, 56, arrived at 6am after a 45-minute, cane-assisted limp from his home in an apartment complex a couple miles north. Both his legs were broken some time ago in an accident; he needs surgery that he can't afford. "I usually ride my bike, but I got a flat yesterday and had to leave it with a friend until I could get a new tube." This day, Taylor is about 30 people back in the line for returning clients and will be in the second group admitted to the waiting area, where he'll sign in and pick up roughly 50 pounds of food – bread, produce, frozen meat, juice, and other such staples – to carry home on foot for himself and his teenage niece and nephew who live with him. Clients are limited to one visit a month (the elderly can come twice), and Taylor says the pantry provides about 60% of his family's monthly groceries. As for his disability check: "After I pay the rent and then the rest for food, that's pretty much it."

This is Taylor's third visit to the Capital Area Food Bank of Texas pantry on East St. Johns Avenue, a block from Webb Middle School. According to Brandon Pettet, the CAFB agency relations representative who, with his colleague Anna Maciel, supervises this site, the pantry feeds an average of 150 families each week, although recently the numbers have reached closer to 200. From the looks of the two lines, it will serve at least that many today. That's four Wednesdays in a month (or five, in this one), each with a different group of 150-200 families – and this is only one among the dozens of pantries served by CAFB and its 300 partner agencies in 21 Central Texas counties. "Some people are hoping for turkeys today, with the holiday coming," says Pettet, "but we only have a dozen or so. They can stay in line today or instead come back next week and hope we have more."

Just opposite Taylor, in the new client line, is Jennifer Aranda, 35 and the mother of six children, who is waiting today with her youngest, Marcus, 3. "We're going through a hard time; my husband works in HVAC maintenance and repair, and I'm a nurse, but I had to quit work to take care of Marcus – he needs heart surgery in February. And then the car broke down, and we had to fix that. We need help to get through the next few months. It's to get by until I can get back to work."

Leaving the pantry, Taylor is untroubled by the unavailability of turkeys. "Any food is fine," he says. He gathers his cane and bags of groceries, and steadies himself for the long walk home. "You name it, I've done it; you name it, I can do it," he says. "But right now, the work situation is kind of bad. Before I was disabled, I was working, but I'm not working now."

Anything else he'd like to add? "Just take it one day at a time, and keep holding on; you'll be all right." ■

To learn more about the work of the Capital Area Food Bank or to find out how to help – your \$1 buys \$5 worth of food – please visit www.austinfoodbank.org.

Each Wednesday, two lines form outside the St. John Community Food Center, one for new and one for returning clients. Doors open at 9am, but lines begin to form several hours earlier. The CAFB pantry is located in the For the City Center established in a former nursing home by the Austin Stone Community Church.



While lines of people wait for admission, CAFB agency representative Pettet describes the intake process for each client. In addition to food selection, clients are interviewed for potential eligibility for other assistance programs.

Volunteers arrange donated food by category for client selection; CAFB's Brandon Pettet estimates that roughly 75-80% of the St. John clients are Spanish-speaking only.



Agency representative Anna Maciel (far right) gives instructions to those waiting for the pantry doors to open: to her right, new clients; to her left, returning clients.

continued on p.30



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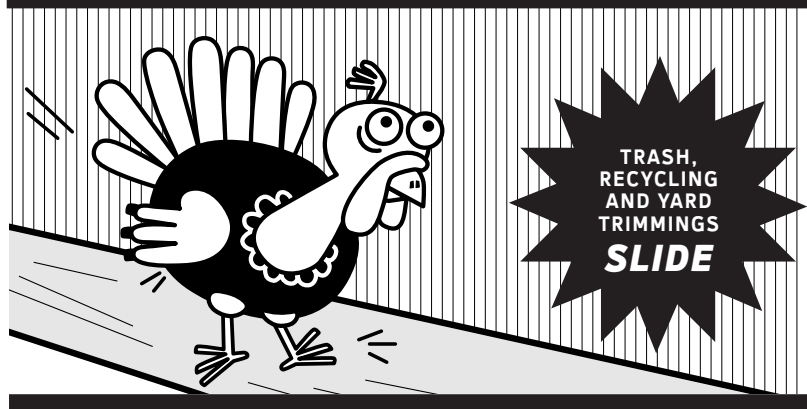


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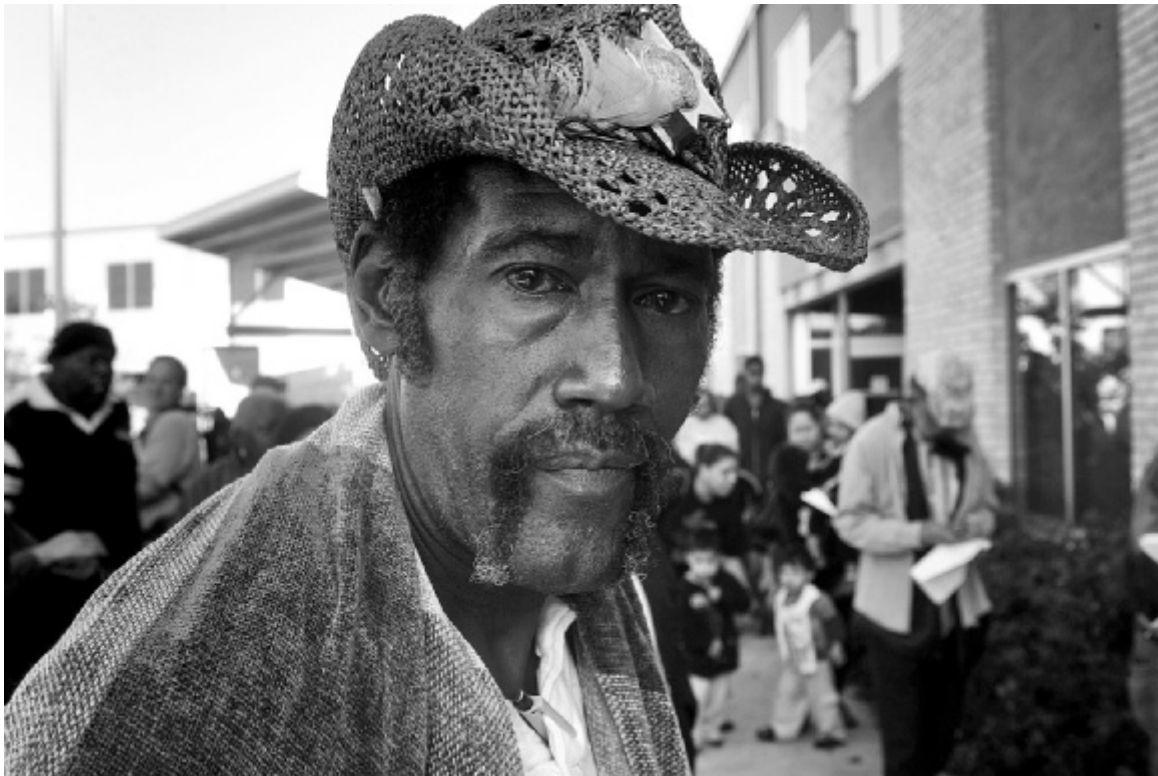
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Oliver Taylor, 56, waits to select food for himself and his niece and nephew. "I've been many places; I've been in the military, I've been in the country ... country life." He was disabled when both his legs were broken in a horse-riding accident.

Jennifer Aranda, 35, holds her youngest son, Marcus, 3. This is her first visit to a food pantry; she says, "It's just been one problem after another." Marcus is scheduled for heart surgery in February.



A volunteer accompanies a returning client and explains to her what's available for selection this particular Wednesday.

Returning clients register with volunteers before selecting their groceries. New clients may also apply for the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program, aka food stamps, although the agency is concerned that Congress is considering more cuts to the program.



Volunteers, who also help stock the pantry on other days, help a client sort through a selection of frozen meats and other donated items. On this day, clients could also receive donated reusable bags.



The St. John Center is CAFB's model "client-choice" pantry where, assisted by volunteers, clients shop for available donated goods in various categories, choosing the specific food items they need.

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AMOA-Arthouse

FERAL HOGS INVADE LAGUNA GLORIA! (SORTA)

Squirrels you would expect to encounter on the grounds of Laguna Gloria, and perchance deer or even the odd fox, but *feral hogs*? And they don't just *happen* to be there; they've been *imported* to the spot by the Austin Museum of Art-Arthouse, which wants you to come on over and nuzzle up to the beasts. You needn't fear getting gored or trampled, though; these "tush hogs," as they're colloquially

known down South, have no tusks or even legs. They're really bogus boars – vaguely globular geometric sculptures masquerading as wild swine. Their creator, San Antonio-based artist Buster Graybill, calls 'em "hog balls," and he designed them to be roughly round so they could be rolled around by real tush hogs trying to get at the feed corn stashed inside.

Yes, Graybill placed a number of these diamond-plate aluminum structures on some ranchland in South Texas to let real hogs have their way with them. And set up surveillance cameras to capture the animals in the act. His photographic documentation of the contact between art and hogs (and deer and bighorn sheep, as it turned out) is also part of this project developed during Graybill's 2010 residency at Artpace, the Alamo City's internationally prestigious incubator for contemporary art. It's part of this fifth-generation Texan's ongoing exploration of the rural landscape and the changes taking place in it. Some of his projects address urban sprawl's effects on nature and culture, but in this instance, his focus is on changes wrought by a natural phenomenon: the population explosion of feral hogs in the state, which has caused millions of dollars in damage to farms and ranches. This isn't just a matter of us encroaching on their habitat; they're also expanding into ours.

For the Laguna Gloria installation, Graybill's "hog balls" will serve as substitutes for actual tush hogs, set around the grounds as if in small herds. And while they'll still be loaded with feed corn, curator of exhibitions and public programs Andrea Mellard isn't expecting any large pigs to knock them around – more likely raccoons will play cat burglar and steal off with the corn. Graybill has also constructed a 16-foot-tall deer blind from which the "hog balls" and the rest of the Laguna Gloria landscape may be viewed. Titled *Deer Stand for Mondrian*, its painted camouflage patterns mimic the geometric paintings of Dutch artist Piet Mondrian. Once you've toured the outdoor part of the exhibit – smile for the surveillance cameras! – drop by the Gatehouse Gallery to see photographs and videos of critters interacting with the sculptures in the wild.

And if this talk of tasty beast has you hankering for some, come sample some courtesy of AMOA-Arthouse and Edible Austin on Wednesday, Nov. 30, 7pm. The program "Whole Hog" boasts a menu of wild game prepared by Jesse Griffiths of Dai Due. For more information, visit www.amoa.org/wholehog. – R.F.

"Buster Graybill: Progeny of Tush Hog" is on display through Feb. 19 at AMOA-Arthouse – Laguna Gloria, 3809 W. 35th. For more information, visit www.amoa.org.

Under the Influence

Am I a dope for not knowing what "influential" means?

Allow me to clarify: I have a clear grasp of what the word means *generally*. Where I'm having trouble is what it means when it's applied specifically to *me*, as in: one of "12 of the nation's most influential theatre critics."

As *Chronicle* Editor Louis Black noted in "Page Two," Nov. 11, the November issue of *American Theatre* magazine includes me among a dozen arts writers who, to quote David Cote, the critic who wrote about us, "form a vital phalanx of critical opinion that chronicles and weighs work that national media outlets are content to ignore." This qualifies as tall cotton, especially considering that my 11 colleagues on the list all work for major metropolitan dailies (*The New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Miami Herald*, *Chicago Tribune*, and so on). I'm certainly honored by the recognition and own a sizable enough ego to take more than a little pleasure in it. But all month long I've been chewing on that word "influential."

My first thought, given how often "influence" is wedded with "peddling" nowadays, shading the word with shadiness, was that it paints me as some stage-door Bo Pilgrim,

passing out \$10,000 checks on the floor of the Austin Critics Table Awards ceremony to ensure that companies stage only the plays *I* want. Less laughably, the word recalls our collective notion of the critic who can close a show or keep it running on the strength of a review. That brand of influence, however, has only ever held much sway, if any, in the commercial theatre of New York. For the nonprofit productions that dominate our nation's stages (certainly Austin's), a pan has no power to shut a show down; the run is fixed before the curtain goes up. Still, some argue, a review can influence a local show's attendance. Possibly, though the only evidence I've been given is anecdotal, and I've just as many anecdotes about raves that put no butts in seats and negative notices that did nada to shows doing boffo at the box office. And I apparently have no more clout with the companies than with their audiences, as I've yet to be consulted about what plays they should mount, despite my having no shortage of opinions. All of which leaves me wondering where this alleged critical influence lies.

Perhaps it owes less to changing what people *do* than what they *think*. When I consider our theatre scene's strong reputation around the nation – and Austin most definitely has one – it's built upon the wealth of orig-

inal theatre being generated here: through nationally recognized troupes like the Rude Mechanicals and Salvage Vanguard Theater; through FronteraFest, Fusebox Festival, and ScriptWorks; and through the programs in the University of Texas Department of Theatre & Dance and the Michener Center for Writers. And if there's a thread that runs through my 25 years of writing about theatre here, it's new work – building awareness of it, advocating for it, exploring its creation, and recognizing its successes. I can't take credit for the plays or the growth and vitality of the scene, but repeatedly writing about how essential new work is and how seriously it deserves to be taken, I've perhaps influenced how audiences and artists think about new work. They treat it like it matters just as much as an *Othello* or *Oklahoma!*, and when playwrights here have gone on to do significant work elsewhere – think Lisa D'Amour, Sharon Bridgforth, Dan Dietz, Kirk Lynn, Daniel Alexander Jones, John Walch – they've gone possessing a sense of worth about their work drawn from this community's support.

That message about new work wouldn't have had much impact had it not been reiterated and enlarged upon over many years. The value of a critic, in theatre or any discipline, deepens over time, with the growth of that person's knowledge of the field and the community he's covering. When critics are around long enough to develop a sense of history and scope, a grasp of what's been created, where it fits, and what's missing, they can offer so much more than a thumb up or down for a particular show. They can tell a bigger story: the story of the scene that made that show. In this new media era when everyone can post their opinions, that's what the professional critic in it for the long haul can still offer: a perspective broadened through commitment and years. To the extent that I've had that, I owe *Chronicle* Editor Louis Black and Publisher Nick Barbaro. Without their ongoing support, I wouldn't be here.

Or be officially influential. Now excuse me while I follow up on a suggestion from designer Michael Raiford: to get myself a T-shirt that reads "Now when I say you suck, it *means* something." ■



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JOHN ANDERSON

Where Comedy Lives

Austin stand-ups have a complex – and it's called the Sandstone Apartments

BY WAYNE ALAN BRENNER

In the heart, of course, that's where comedy truly lives: in the frequently complex, sometimes substance-enhanced, occasionally bitter heart of every stand-up who ever tried to make a living behind a microphone.

But those hearts, the actual physical ones, are in bodies; and those bodies, eventually, need a place to crash; and, in Austin, deep in the heart of Texas, many of those bodies of comedy will be crashing – and doing laundry and watching TV and microwaving Hot Pockets and practicing their schtick – in the Sandstone Apartments on Manor Road.

Why Sandstone? Maybe because that's where comedian Seth Cockfield moved after fleeing what Hurricane Katrina had wrought in New Orleans six years ago. He was, they say, the first comic there and so possibly inspirational? But these days the reason is more obvious: The Sandstone Apartments – Sandstone I on the north side

of Manor Road and Sandstone II across the street – are now *managed* by a comedian. Ladies and gentlemen, Mr. Joe Staats.

"I knew this guy who was the apartment manager here," says Staats. "And he was like, 'Hey, I'm going back to school, and I can't be the manager anymore.' And I was like, 'Well, get me an interview so I can do the job.' And he was like, 'All right, I'll set that up.' And then I got the job."

Well, sure. And then Staats just grabbed some friends and had them move on in?

"Yeah," he says, "because there's always a few vacancies, and the traditional rule of apartment managing is you need a 9-month or a 12-month lease. But I can be *lenient* and be like, 'Well, this guy's gonna be here; he's gonna pay his rent. He's not gonna be on a *lease*, but, hey, it's an extra \$800 a month' or whatever."

"It's really hard to get away from Joe Staats when he's your boss, and he works

here, and you see him at the clubs," says Kat Ramzinski, who's been working stand-up locally for five years and regularly graces Cap City Comedy Club's Monday night "Chick Schtick." "No matter where you go, he's like, 'Where's my rent?'"

"It's more than just not paying rent," says Isaac Harigle, alcoholic-in-training and inveterate warrior at the Geeks Who Drink pub quiz. "It's like, if I don't come through, my friend gets *fired*, my friend becomes *homeless*."

"Yeah, he lays an incredible amount of guilt on us," says Ramzinski. "But we learn to deal with it and just power through."

So what's it like, this Eastside hotbed – or, at least, lukewarm and slightly beer-stained bed – of offstage comedy camaraderie? Is there any camaraderie? Do these funny men and funnywomen have nothing to do with one another, truth be told, or do they actually get together and, what, hang out and

drink? Concoct possible ways to achieve total world comedy domination? Play board games? That's what I went to find out at Sandstone itself, on a Sunday afternoon during Fun Fun Fun Fest.

It was Ramzinski who first told me about the Sandstone community. And it was she who corralled all her fellow Sandstoners, current residents or recent escapees, for a gathering on the porch stairwell of Sandstone I so I could pepper them with questions or – and this was more like it – just make sure my recorder was working while listening to the brief and scattered oral history of the place, to the trash talk and the badinage and the gossip that erupted among the group like an audio version of gin blossoms on the cheeks of some old lush captured in a decade's worth of time-lapse photography. Yeah, just like that.

The afternoon's cause célèbre, as if there had to be one, was about how 90% of the people at Fun Fun Fun Fest kept mistaking Austin comedian Chris Cubas for the much more famous NYC comedian and musician Reggie Watts and how Cubas capitalized on the situation by telling autograph hounds and starry-eyed interviewers things in the

continued on p.36

BUSTER GRAYBILL

PROGENY OF TUSH HOG

NOVEMBER 22, 2011-FEBRUARY 19, 2012



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Buster Graybill, *Untitled Tush Hog Surveillance*, 2011, Archival Inkjet Print, 30 x 40 inches, Image courtesy of the artist

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third person: “Reggie Watts doesn’t tip – Reggie Watts doesn’t *believe* in tipping” and “Reggie Watts says Glenn Danzig sucks” and so on. Twitter, unsurprisingly, was blowing up with the hoax.

But this story’s not about, ah, Wattsgate, although it is about Cubas – and Ramzinski and Staats and Cockfield and Harigle and the other stand-up stalwarts stopping by the chair-strewn porch where most of them still live: Natalie Cox, Andy Ritchie, Ruby Collins, Blake Midgette, Jake Flores, Joe Hafkey, and Bob Khosravi. This story’s about *them* and where they live.

Austin Chronicle: So you’re here mostly because Joe’s the manager?

Seth Cockfield: The location is also good. If this place was in West Lake? It wouldn’t matter, even if Joe was manager there.

Kat Ramzinski: We’re right next to Tenderland [burger joint].

Cockfield: We’re right on the [Capital Metro] 20 line that takes you straight Downtown. Takes you 10 minutes to get to the Velveeta Room with one bus. That’s pretty awesome. **AC:** Is there anything you’d change about Sandstone to make it better?

Chris Cubas: What I would like is some sort of pulley system that can get Tenderland delivered without having to walk and get it.

Joe Staats: And I would like that same pulley system that would put your rent in the door.

AC: You guys see each other in the clubs all the time. Don’t you get sick of living in the same place?

Cubas: Yes. [laughter all around]

Ramzinski: When we’re not tired of each other, we come to the porch.

Cockfield: To answer your question, yeah, I get real tired of these people. [laughter all around]

Ramzinski: Yeah, I hate these motherfuckers.

Isaac Harigle: Seth has probably kicked more people out of his apartment more often.

Cubas: That’s mostly because he has more people *in* his apartment. Like he’ll have a dance party going in there, and sometimes nobody else will be there. It’s just Seth, and he’ll be having a dance party by himself. And he’s moved the couches, which doesn’t make any sense.

Ramzinski: Sometimes Seth’s friends come to *my* house, and *my* friends come to *Seth’s* house, because we –

Joe Staats: False premise, Kat, you don’t have friends. [crickets]

Picture it: Cockfield lives on the second floor of Sandstone I, with Hafkey as a roommate; Midgette’s on the third floor. On the first floor are Cox, Staats, and Khosravi. At Sandstone II, all on the second floor, are Ramzinski, Ritchie, and Collins. Cubas, Harigle, and Flores have ditched the complex but visit as regularly as barflies; a somewhat legendary Nick Mullen has long since fled. And where this interview’s taking place? That’s where the comics often hang.

AC: So whose porch is this, here at the bottom of the stairwell?

Ramzinski: This is LuLu’s porch. She’s an honorary comedian. And I think it should



JOHN ANDERSON

be pointed out that everyone but me is a Funniest Person in Austin finalist.

Cockfield: No, that’s not true.

Ramzinski: Really? I thought every single one of you –

Harigle: Oh, you really wanna open some wounds?

Ramzinski: But aren’t –

Cockfield: No, Kat! We’re telling you: no!

Cubas: Kat, stop *saying* that.

Staats: The word is not “finalist.” The word is “funny.” [big laughter all around]

Ramzinski: I’m not paying rent next month. Not gonna do it. [laughter] But, really, there was one year when everybody from Sandstone swept in the competition.

Cockfield: Yeah, that was two years ago. Eight of the 15 finalists lived here.

Rasmzinski: And a lot of them *this* year – and first *and* second place.

That’s Andy Ritchie, 2011’s Funniest Person in Austin, aka FPIA, with Cubas second, as judged during Cap City Comedy Club’s heavily industry-attended annual contest. Ritchie’s a successful touring comic who’s performed for Montreal’s prestigious Just for Laughs Festival and Comedy Central’s *Live at Gotham*; Cubas, when he’s not impersonating his putative doppelgänger, is perhaps the most rising star around, as suggested by his crowd-slaying set at this year’s South by Southwest showcase. The FPIA gig’s the reason a lot of comics from out of state, whether they wind up at Sandstone or not, move to Austin. It’s a competition-spurring event that comics work toward all year long, but does it weaponize the scene away from a sense of community? Or do these funny people, at least at Sandstone, get together to try out new jokes before they hit the road or go onstage for their headlining gigs at the Velveeta Room, their opening or feature spots at Cap City, whatever open mic will take them?

Cubas: We might do that *in conversation*. Like, me and Seth hang out a lot and watch movies, and we might be like, “Hey, I’ve got this joke I’m working on.” But very rarely do we all get together for that stated purpose.

Ramzinski: If somebody said, “Hey, I’ve got some new jokes I’m working on” and just started spilling them? They’d probably get hit in the dick. No one cares.

Cockfield: There’s certain comics that – it’s typically comics that don’t know us, you can tell they’re telling a joke –

Harigle: They’re testing out new material.

Cubas: Yeah, there’s a particular term, when they’re ...

Cockfield: Paneling.

Cubas: Yeah, they’re *paneling*!

Ramzinski: It feels like they’re *violating* you.

Cockfield: The other night, he-who-shall-remain-nameless came over and kept on going with a joke. And I was like, “Oh, you should do that at the open mic.” And it continued and continued, and I was like: “Whoa, this is a *long* joke. *Stop telling this joke.*”

AC: Besides that, *when you’re not onstage, are you really competitive? Like, “He just said something funny, I’ve gotta top that?”*

Cubas: I feel like that’s a natural state of comics anywhere. That happens at the Velv or Mugshotz or wherever comics are together.

Cockfield: It can get pretty brutal and –

Cubas: Yeah yeah yeah, and –

Ramzinski: Yeah, it’s –

Staats: And we *never* talk over each other. [laughter all around]

Cubas: Oh, that’s gonna be awesome on the transcript. That joke’s gonna translate into text really well. But, yeah, I feel like maybe we’re particularly *mean*. Or, not *mean*, but we all *know* each other really well, so we’ve labeled all the buttons, you know what I mean? So now it’s really easy to push ‘em.

Ramzinski: But when someone has a nervous breakdown, then everyone’s cool with them.

Cubas: No, are you kidding? That’s where you go *harder*. Now they’re on the ropes!

Ramzinski: No, see –

Kat Ramzinski: *If somebody said, “Hey, I’ve got some new jokes I’m working on” and just started spilling them? They’d probably get hit in the dick. No one cares.*

Cubas: Nick Mullen, who used to live here, he might’ve been the king of it, the most brutal shit-talker on the planet. He still does it on Facebook. Like, you’ll get a pop-up text from him shitting on someone. “Tell them I said *this*.” But he’s hilarious.

AC: *What are some of the advantages you guys find living around so many other comedians? If any.*

Cubas: Yeah, right?

Ramzinski: Hey, how many of you have a car? [counts partially raised hands] Okay, cool. I just didn’t know who to ask for a ride. [laughter all around]

Cubas: Oddly, I think the shit-talking we were just talking about? It helps. It keeps you on your toes. Like, nobody wants to be the guy that just sits there getting shit on, so it keeps you always looking for a joke. It helps you *think* fast.

Cockfield: Also, for comedy, you gotta have a thick skin in general. So if you’re surrounded by people who are constantly trying to take you down, you’re either gonna go down or you’re gonna try to take *them* down. So it helps.

AC: *Is there anybody who used to live at Sandstone who moved away because they couldn’t stand it any more?*

Staats: Uh, Brendon Walsh?

Cubas: Yeah, but that’s also because he got famous.

Staats: Seth made him famous.

Cockfield: Yeah, I hold myself responsible.

Andy Ritchie: I moved across the street because I couldn’t stand it here. Sandstone II is like the *retirement* Sandstone – this side’s a little too intense. [laughter all around] The year I lived on this side, the cops were called several times. Sandstone I is like the bad part of town.

Harigle: It’s easy to get distracted here. I’ve actually done more writing since I’ve been away. Because, when you’re here, it’s so easy to be like, “Oh, I’ll just step outside and smoke a cigarette.” And then Natalie will show up and somebody else, and somebody shows up with beer, and then it turns into Afternoon Drink-a-thon and you’re fucked for writing for the rest of the night.

Ramzinski: I’ll make time to come to the porch if Norm’s here.

Cubas: Norm Wilkerson’s a comic who used to run Austin Trainwreck. Norm’s fuckin’ hilarious, and he hangs out here a lot.

AC: *Kat tells me that y’all, uh, play board games sometimes?*

Ramzinski: Well, that was a phase, but it’s starting to come back. It started with *Settlers of Catan* at Seth’s. And then it became *Magic: The Gathering* at Blake’s with some people who *don’t* live here included.

Harigle: It’s the only time I ever *wanted* to be a dork, because I don’t play board games or *Magic*, but all my friends do. So I had nobody to hang out with for three months.

Ramzinski: And *Catan* is fuckin’ *fun*. So we play the shit out of it, and we’re all pretty fuckin’ good at it. I don’t wanna brag.

Cubas: At least you’re not bragging about *comedy*. Which is accurate.

Cockfield: “Local Comedians Really Good at Board Games!” [laughter all around]

AC: *What’s the worst thing that’s ever happened to Sandstoners, that people had to help them out of the situation, and you were able to do it because you all live here?*

Cubas: Jake and Joe got jumped –

Ramzinski: Got the shit beat out of them.

Cubas: Yeah, by a bunch of fuckin’ hoodlums, and they –

Ruby Collins: But we had a potluck dinner. **Staats:** That was the worst thing. [laughter]

Cubas: Jake and Joe were going under the I-35 overpass, got jumped by like 20 dudes. So JT [Habersaat, of the Altercation Punk

Comedy Tour] organized a benefit over at the Vortex, got them money for the hospital bills – mostly for Joe, who was more fucked up. Because Jake knows how to tuck – tuck and block. And then, a little later, Blake got a staph infection. From, ah, being gross? But we had a benefit at Cherrywood Coffeehouse to raise some money and help him out. We help if we can but mostly only after significant hoopla.

AC: What was the biggest party you ever had in this place?

Cubas: A lot of the post-contest nights, those were pretty big.

Flores: It's not really a matter of big parties; it's more of a quantity thing. It's just a long constant stream, always. There are people who will literally drive up here just to see if there's shit going on.

Ritchie: It's not so much a party as it is just drinking. It's not fun; no one's smiling.

[laughter all around]

AC: A place this homey, people must be jonesing to get in, right? You have, like, a comedians' wait-list, Joe?

Staats: No, because in order to live here you have to have a part-time job making \$8 an hour. Which 90 percent of comedians do not have.

Cubas: That's very true.

Cockfield: Ah, I think most comedians have a job. It's just that, the ones who don't have a job talk about it all the time. Most comedians are employed in some fashion.

Cubas: In some minimal amount.

Harigle: Yeah, a minimal amount. But in order to live at Sandstone, especially in a two-bedroom? You have to make a whopping \$400 a month. Which requires working 10 hours a week.

Cubas: Isaac, you're scaring me; you need to shut up.

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EXHIBITIONISM

Big Love

**Rollins Studio Theatre at the Long Center,
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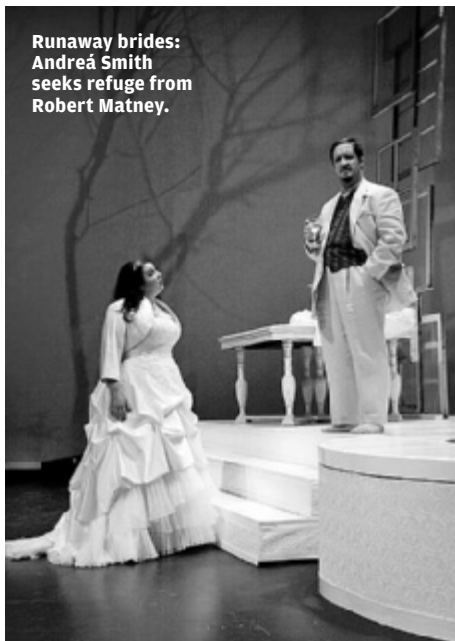
www.thelongcenter.org

Through Nov. 27

Running time: 1 hr., 40 min.

The remarkable premise of *Big Love* is that 50 brides have fled from their wedding to their 50 cousins. They've arrived at an Italian villa in their wedding dresses, desperate for asylum. Of course, that puts everybody in an awkward spot: the brides, the grooms, and their conflict-averse hosts. Apart from the innate humor in the story, which is adapted from the ancient Greek drama *The Suppliants*, the play delves into male and female identity, longing for love and happiness, and social responsibility.

Playwright Charles Mee is one of the greatest monologists of the American theatre. He writes eloquent speeches that drive deep into a character's innermost feelings and also into the political and social issues that those feelings illuminate. To fulfill the potential of his language, you need a group of actors with some serious chops. Shrewd Productions has fortunately cast its production of *Big Love* with a lovely, lovely group of actors who fit their parts well. Under the direction of *Chronicle* Arts Editor Robert Faires, the ensemble is so good that it's difficult to isolate just one or two performances, even though the monologue-filled nature of the play makes it a good showcase for individual talents. Instead, it's better to relish the sight of men and women in their wedding best flinging themselves onto the ground or to enjoy the sight of so many characters with conflicting intentions work their way through the story. Everyone onstage comes equipped with fascinating musings on how to get through this mortal life in the company of other human beings, and it's great fun to listen



**Runaway brides:
Andrea Smith
seeks refuge from
Robert Matney.**

COURTESY OF KIMBERLEY MEAD

to them – or even to let all the words simply wash over you and watch the story float by.

The design team has also supplied work worthy of mention. Patrick Anthony's lights enhance the story, la Enstará's set provides depth and levels that catch the eye, and Pamela Friday's costumes include, among other things, some rather nice wedding dresses.

As a critic, one has the privilege of picking up on trends and patterns in the work of local artists, and in the case of Faires' work as a director, his greatest skill is in gathering many minds and bringing them together in such a way that their work combines into a greater, cohesive whole. It's an enviable talent and one that I hope Austin will continue to enjoy for years to come.

– Elizabeth Cobbe

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Garden by Marc Burckhardt

Well

The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282

www.main.org/diffstages

Through Dec. 3

Running time: 1 hr., 40 min.

As I left the Vortex along with the other nine audience members who had attended Different Stages' production of *Well*, I found myself wondering why the Friday night turnout had been so slim. Though not a household title, this "multicharacter theatrical exploration of issues of health and illness both in the individual and in a community," as performance artist/playwright Lisa Kron describes it, is far from oblivion. *Well* has played Broadway and the West End, garnered two Tony Award nominations, and was honored in 2004 with inclusion in the *Best Plays Theater Yearbook* amid the esteemed company of *Anna in the Tropics*, *Omnium Gatherum*, and *The Violet Hour*. As I thought about the tiny Different Stages audience and pondered "Why not *Well*?" I couldn't come up with a sufficiently convincing answer.

Perhaps it's the authenticity factor. There's something distancing about an actor who steps into the author's stead for a completely autobiographical piece of theatre, especially when the play is written (in the case of *Well*) as a direct address from playwright/narrator/actress to her audience. Though Sarah Seaton gives a passionate performance as Lisa Kron, she's not Lisa Kron. Of course, in the theatre, it's usually the case that actors portray characters whom they are "not really." Somehow, though, the choice to produce an unapologetic, fourth-wall-breaking autobiography devoid of the source herself runs the risk of perceived falseness. As convincing as Seaton's portrayal of Kron may be, it feels like a substitute for the real thing. This is to take nothing away from Seaton; I wager that this sentiment would hold true with any actress playing the role but Kron herself.

Yet the same does not hold true for me with Ann Kron, Lisa's mother and the other primary character in her play. Having Jennifer Underwood play Ann in the Different Stages production wasn't distancing – perhaps because the real Ann Kron has never played the character of Ann Kron in *Well* (on Broadway,



COURTESY OF BRET BROOKSHIRE

Lisa Kron was joined onstage by Jayne Houdyshell as her mother). Though Ann's character provides much of the source material and even some of the audience-directed narration throughout the play, Lisa is the playwright, the autobiographer. Had Shakespeare penned a work in which he addressed the audience directly, recounting stories from his childhood and adult life revolving around a central theme, the groundling in me should have wanted to make eye contact with Shakespeare himself as he shared those personal stories. This doesn't mean that another actor playing Shakespeare wouldn't have portrayed the Bard well, only that authenticity can become quite the burden in productions of self-aware, autobiographical performance when devoid of the autobiographer (never mind *Anonymous*).

As Different Stages Artistic Director Norman Blumensaadt indicated during his curtain speech, Lisa Kron is otherwise occupied in New York City with new work at the moment. But in her absence, his company delivers a fine revival of her play about sickness, wellness, and the in-between, deserving far more attention than 10 observers in an evening.

– Adam Roberts

Some fool somewhere is always going to say: "Well, that's not really art, is it? That's, well, that's just *illustration*." At which point your personal fate hinges on whether or not you have a fatal, stress-related embolism before or after you assault the offending citizen with a tire iron.

So be wary of the presence of any such fools wandering the elegant, small rooms of Gallery Shoal Creek when you go to see the two-man exhibition of works by Marc Burckhardt and Gustavo Torres.

Certainly, Torres' cast bronzes of strangely enhanced or inhabited water vessels won't confuse even the most foolish: There's something about three-dimensional objects created from metal alloy, especially when they're

as darkly sublime as what's on display here, that signify *art* to even the least aware among us. But it could be that Burckhardt's paintings in acrylic and oil on panel – no less sublime in their subjects and execution, even richer in color and more dense with narrative – might confuse the sort of people who'd also relegate Norman Rockwell or various Wyeths to the mere-commercial-graphics category. It didn't confuse the Texas Commission on the Arts or the Legislature that named Burckhardt the Texas State Two-Dimensional Artist in 2010, though, and it won't confuse you as you stand there, enthralled, reveling in beauty so close to home yet bigger, in its implications, than all of this storied Lone Star State.

– Wayne Alan Brenner

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THE ARTS STYLE

AMERICANA: HIPSTERFIED

Everyone knows that **Peter Pan Mini-Golf** is eternal. I remember it from my earliest days in Austin in 1975 – cast parties for shows I worked on. We snuck in flasks to escalate our underaged fun. But I haven't been back in many, many years. News of Peter Pan's renovation is exactly the kind of hipster reimagining happening all over old Austin, some for good, some for worse. The fact of the matter is that some things need change to survive. While Peter Pan is a slice of an America gone by, there's no reason it can't do exactly what it's doing and reinvent itself while restoring itself. Hipster is as hipster does.



TESTES, TESTES, ONE, TWO

OK, they're gone. I have been under heavy medication for five days to cope with the unfathomable pain of being castrated. I walk occasionally (gingerly and always with a cane). I don't know how I feel about it all yet. I've been unable to think about it, but I know soon that the emotional repercussions will hit me hard. *Thank God* for my vintage **Craftmatic Adjustable Bed**. It allows me to contort my hips and legs into a sprawled-out position that, while undignified, is definitely the most comfortable. I'm unstable on my feet and have to use cumbersome walking aids for now; ideally that will ease up, and I'll be back on my feet again. (That was supposed to be lighthearted, dammit. I'm trying to be cheerful.) Though I won't be accepting every holiday invitation this year, I do intend to be out and about (albeit for brief periods) and reassuring my friends that I am recovering well and having a ball Er, something like that.

LET IT SOCO, LET IT SOCO, LET IT SOCO

Bring the whole family – and deck the halls with boughs of holly, and all that jazz – at the **Miracle on South**

Congress First Thursday charity event, Thursday, Dec. 1,

along South Congress.

Shops will be open late.

Get a photo with Santa at

Doc's Motorworks,

5-8pm. **Blue Santa** will

accept toy donations

(www.bluesanta.org). Try

your luck in a blow-up

snow globe from the **Train**

Quest (another great photo

opp). Watch the tree lighting

at dusk, enjoy carolers from

Travis High School, and see elves

create fun and merriment by sliding up and down the SoCo Strip. This sounds great to me. Thank goodness *someone's* doing *something* for the holidays. It's a subject I've harped on for many years, even suggesting that SoCo become the center of Austin's holiday decor. There was a moment when there was real hope for Downtown lights, but, alas, the replacements were as lame as the garish original ones. We have high hopes for South Congress.

DANCING THEIR HEARTS OUT

With the holidays come all sorts of glittering goings-on. The annual **Dancing With the Stars Austin** is at the Austin Hilton, Sunday, Dec. 4 (6:30pm reception, 7pm dinner). A special performance by **Susan Lubin** accompanied by **Andrew Heller** will be among the highlights. Dancers include Travis County Judge **Samuel T. Briscoe**, **Vaughn Brock**, **George T. Elliman**, **Patsy Woods Martin**, **Jackie Mooney**, **Ryan Nail**, **Kumara Wilcoxon**, and **Lynn Yeldell**. I'll be at this one even if I have to attend in a wheelchair. See www.centerforchildprotection.org for full details.



Carrie Fisher at the New Milestones Foundation benefit with a message for our Style Avatar

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Write to our Style Avatar with your related events, news, and hautey bits: style@austinchronicle.com or PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765.



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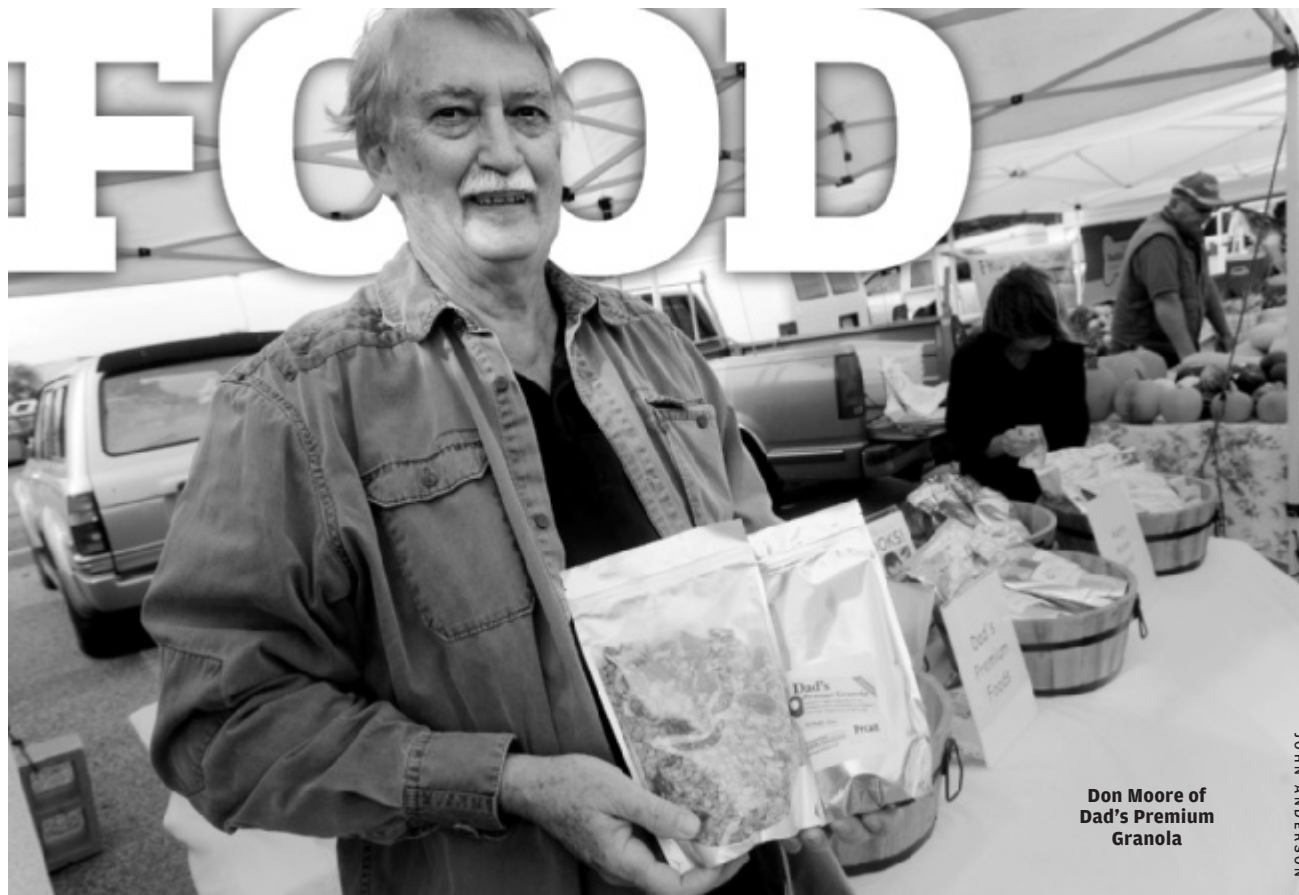
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Don Moore of
Dad's Premium
Granola

JOHN ANDERSON

Dad's Premium Granola www.getchrown.com

The domain name this dad came up with for his website – a contraction of “get your own!” – made me smile immediately, because it mirrors exactly what happened at my house with Dad’s Premium Granola. I bought a package of gluten-free, agave-sweetened **almond granola** and put it in the “special gluten-free foods just for me” area of the kitchen ... and opened it one morning to find it nearly gone! My husband confessed that he’d been sneaking a little every morning (this is a man who usually doesn’t like a food unless queso or french fries are involved).

Apparently, this scenario is so typical for Dad’s customers that it has become an inside joke at the company. “My gra-

nola has caused a lot of roommate trouble!” relates Dad, otherwise known as **Don Moore**. “I started making it about four years ago, just for myself. But I just couldn’t keep it around; it kept disappearing as fast as I could make it! Have I mentioned that I have sons?” Family and friends encouraged Moore to sell it, which he now does at the **Barton Creek Farmers’ Market**.

What exactly makes Dad’s Premium Granola so special? The main difference is how it is sweetened. Moore uses maple syrup in all his recipes, which gives it a ton of flavor, a very light sweetness, and a crunchy texture. This is something that most granola makers simply don’t do, because maple syrup is

extremely expensive. “I’ve started substituting agave nectar for brown sugar too,” relates Moore. “People are always saying to me what they love about my granola is that it isn’t too sweet.”

Moore also uses plenty of nuts; every recipe contains cashews, almonds, or pecans, and organic unsweetened coconut also helps give it a wonderful texture. All regular recipes are \$8 a pound at the farmers’ market, and the recipes made with certified gluten-free oats are \$10 a pound. You can also find Dad’s Premium Granola at **Wheatsville Food Co-op, FreshPlus, Thom’s Grocery**, and on the breakfast menu at **Magnolia Cafe**.

– Kate Thornberry

Still at loose ends for Thanksgiving?
Check the listings at
www.austinchronicle.com/thanksgiving.

Meal Times Nov. 25-Dec. 1

- Foodways Texas offers a second **Barbecue Summer Camp** on the Texas A&M campus, June 8-10, 2012. Tickets for instruction and five meals (\$495, members; \$550, public) at www.foodwaystexas.com.
- Con 'Olio Oils & Vinegars (10000 Research #130) celebrates **two years in business** with food and wine samples and giveaways all day. Friday, Nov. 25, 10am-8pm.
- Enjoy the **Artisan Fair and Post-Thanksgiving Lunchtime Feast** at Fall Creek Vineyards (www.fcv.com). \$17.50, excluding wine; reserve at 325/379-5361. Saturday, Nov. 26, 11am-5pm.
- **Thai Fresh** and **Thrice Cafe** (909 W. Mary) offer a **Sunday brunch** with Thai fried chicken, gluten-free waffles, other Thai specialties made to order, and live music by Ralph White. Sunday, Nov. 27, 11am.

- The **monthly wine dinner** series continues at **Andiamo Ristorante** (2521 Rutland) with a multicourse dinner paired with Bressan Rosanico wines. \$45; reserve at 719-3377. Tuesday, Nov. 29, 7pm.
- Author and PBS cooking teacher **Lidia Bastianich** will sign copies of her new book, *Lidia's Italy in America* (Alfred A. Knopf, \$35), and bottles of her own wine at Whole Foods Market (525 N. Lamar). Wednesday, Nov. 30, 6:30pm.
- Help Austin’s historic **Driskill Hotel** (Sixth & Brazos) celebrate **125 years in business** with a tree illumination ceremony and live music in the lobby. Thursday, Dec. 1, 7pm.
- Michael Parker’s annual **Whisky Festival** at Opal Divine’s Penn Field (3601 S. Congress) is the best whiskey event of the year, according to our Wes Marshall. Sample more 50 whiskies from the British Isles complemented by a whiskey-friendly food buffet. Tickets are \$40 in advance at www.opaldivines.com; \$45 at the door. Thursday, Dec. 1, 7pm.

– V.B.W.

food-o-file

BY VIRGINIA B. WOOD

Just in time for the national holiday dedicated to gratitude, it turns out I have plenty to be thankful for. Until recently, this year really sucked. It’s not that I haven’t had bad years before: Age 20 was awful, when poor judgment and lack of discipline fueled by drugs and alcohol cost me a college scholarship and the opportunity to get the training necessary to pursue my first career choice, and 35 was another doozy, with drugs and alcohol, business failure, and costly personal decisions disastrous enough to finally scare a gal sober! But 60 – well, 60 honestly nearly did me in. All that hard living I assumed I’d gotten away with in my 20s and 30s came back to bite me in the ass in the form of various medical misadventures. The condensed version: two cancer scares, two episodes of severe hypoglycemia requiring emergency medical treatment, five ambulance rides, six hospitalizations, kidney failure caused by prescription drug interactions, heart trouble, and an abscessed ovarian cyst the size of a football that required major surgery.

If it sounds terrible, believe me, it was. For most of the past year, I was only able to accomplish the bare minimum required to do my job and stay employed. Now that I’m well again, there are so many people to thank: My sisters **Suzy Wood** and **Anhara Wade** were with me all the way, and my nephew **Todd Frank** and his wife, **Kelly**, brought a precious 18-month-old ray of sunshine to visit me in the hospital last summer, just to cheer me up. It worked... My friends **Jennifer Biggs**, **Kathy McCarty**, and **Ike Johnson** literally saved my life on separate occasions by coming when I called and making sure I got the necessary medical attention... The **firemen** and **EMTs** who responded to calls in my neighborhood, even though having cute boys in my bedroom used to be a lot more fun... My friend **Suzann Dvorken** who learned how to perform my intravenous antibiotic infusions and then stayed with me until I could do them myself. She and Kathy also ran the email network that kept my friends and extended family up to date on my condition during and after surgery, which was invaluable... Everybody at **Seton** who took care of me, especially **Jessica** in wound care, **Ian** the PICC line prince, and all the doctors, nurses, clinical assistants, and physical therapists in the ER, ICU, and intermediate care who treated me with kindness and compassion during a difficult and frightening time... My cardiologist, Dr. **Kunjan Bhatt**, and the talented army of doctors, physicians’ assistants, and nurses at Seton’s **Specialty Care and Transplant Center**, all real champs... Dr. **Jack Bissett** and the staff at **Austin Infectious Disease Consultants** worked overtime to get me out of the hospital in September and then kept the poison football under control until my surgery... Dr. **Paul Loar**, oncologist and surgeon, anticipated and planned for every possible contingency and saw me through a potentially deadly situation with skill, compassion, and an appreciation for my sense of humor. The guy is a rock star... My employers and the entire **Chronicle** family – I’m incredibly lucky to have a job I really love that provides excellent medical coverage, but I’m even luckier to have had their support and concern.

In fact, I’m truly blessed by the support of my family and friends through this entire ordeal. Once I knew when my surgery was set, I told everyone that whether they had a prayer circle, a Wicca circle, or just a good thought for the day, I really needed them focused on my recovery. I’m convinced all that love and positive energy saved my life. As 2011 draws to a close, my surgery was a success and my recovery quick and painless; I’m 100 pounds lighter, and my diabetes, kidney, and heart problems are under control with a minimum of medication. I’m a whole new woman, living with a definite attitude of gratitude. Happy Thanksgiving!

Cottage Industries

On Sept. 1, after many false starts, a new bill allowing home bakers to sell their goods went into law. Here are just a few of its beneficiaries.

BY MELANIE HAUPT

Sara Bircher, a stay-at-home mother of three, nuzzles her 5-month-old baby boy in the living room of her spacious Hyde Park house, which she and her husband have been slowly renovating for the past few years. "I baked a lot with my grandma growing up, and to have people think that my pies are something special is really rewarding," she says. "It's really exciting to find one of those things that somebody else doesn't like to do or is afraid to do but you enjoy doing it."

Bircher, who's behind the still-developing one-woman operation Sweet Pea Pies, is just one example of the many women – and yes, Texas' new cottage food law benefits primarily women in its current iteration – who stand to benefit from the newly legal practice of making and selling cakes, pies, jams, and jellies from home without the prohibitive start-up costs associated with such a venture, from renting a commercial kitchen to licensing, food handlers' permits, inspections, and insurance. And while this image of the beatific mother lovingly making pies for her friends and neighbors in exchange for a few dollars to help support her family certainly helps engender good will toward these cottage industries, it raises other, more immediate questions: Whither homemade? And can Texas' home bakers help divert corporate creep into our tasty treats and, by extension, our kitchens?

Thanksgiving, more so than Christmas, evokes nostalgic, Norman Rockwellian images of Dad carving the golden-brown roasted turkey, of bowls heaping with creamy-smooth mashed potatoes and perfectly whisked gravy, of green bean casserole and fresh-from-the-oven, scratch-baked pumpkin and pecan pies. Of course, the reality of this painstakingly prepared meal is heavily informed by shortcuts – who has the time to thaw a 20-pound turkey for days

on end, then spend countless hours babysitting and basting it? Who owns a rolling pin and buys Crisco and lard anymore? More and more, that gigantic annual meal we associate with home and hearth has been outsourced: We've turned the Thanksgiving meal over to the grocery stores and their spiral-cut hams, smoked turkeys, pecan-cornbread stuffing, spinach-artichoke bread pudding, roasted brussels sprouts with apples, whipped sweet potatoes, and mass-produced pies.

According to the Farm and Ranch Freedom Alliance's Judith McGeary, who worked closely with Reps. Lois Kolkhorst and Eddie Rodriguez on their respective bills at the beginning of the 2011 legislative session, the impetus behind the cottage food law (also known as Senate Bill 81) is a growing "interest from the consumers' side for value-added food. Yes, people want fresh fruits and vegetables and meat and eggs, but they also want the convenience of having premade goods." While there is indeed a market for ready-made food items, there are people who want something a little more personal, perhaps with a bit more integrity than what the big chains have to offer. SB 81 makes it possible for people to outsource their Thanksgiving pies, but through local relationships rather than merely transactional ones.

SB 81 began its life as House Bill 2084, authored by Kolkhorst, a Brenham Republican and chair of the public health committee. (Rodriguez authored a similar bill; Kolkhorst's is the one that emerged from committee hearings.) A similar bill died in committee in 2009; this time around, grassroots activists harnessed their collective power, including a vibrant social media presence that helped mobilize advocates to send an onslaught of letters, phone calls, and personal testimonies when it looked like the bill would not survive the 2011 ses-



Clockwise from top left: Nora Eddings, Kristen Davenport, Sara Bircher, and Lindsey Long display a few of the baked goods they can now legally sell, thanks to SB 81.

sion. Before Sept. 1, if an entrepreneurial baker wanted to start a legal baked-goods business without opening a brick-and-mortar shop, she had to rent a commercial kitchen, obtain a food handler's certification, and jump through many other prohibitively expensive administrative hoops. Such constraints prevented many, many people from being able to pursue such a goal, and it all seemed a bit excessive for something as innocuous as cookies and cupcakes.

Now that many of those restrictions have been scaled back, home bakers are free to sell the aforementioned baked goods and

jams, as well as breads and dry herb mixes. Products requiring refrigeration, such as cream and custard pies, and products that contain protein or are neutral to slightly acidic (with a pH of 4.6-7.5) are prohibited. Sales must be conducted at the seller's home, and while sellers may market their wares via Twitter, Facebook, and websites, no Internet sales are allowed. Profits may not exceed \$50,000 per year, ensuring the small-scale scope of the law. While cottage candy- and salsa-makers were left out in the cold, this is considered a major victory for home-based microbakeries in Texas, one of

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"If you really want to Occupy Wall Street, spend your money locally. They don't really care that you're camping in a park. Stop spending your money; then they'll take notice."

**— Kelley Masters,
Home Sweet Home Bakery**

half a dozen states to enact a cottage food law in 2011. Says Kolkhorst, "It is very heartwarming to know that we have given independent operators and small business, which is the engine of our American economy, the ability to operate legally now."

McGeary, who earned a law degree at the University of Texas, sees the stakes for the new law in pretty clear terms: "If you own your own business, you would like to make money at it, but you probably have a dozen other, equally important reasons why you are doing this business here and now. For big corporations, the sole motivation is profit. They may try to be responsible corporate citizens, but legally they have one duty: to make as much money as possible. The people working in the plants are paid labor; they have no ownership of the product, and they're under huge pressure to move as quickly as possible in the name of efficiency and the highest profits possible. This is diametrically opposed to the incentives of a small-scale local producer who owns their own business — whether it's a cupcake venture or a farm — who is hands-on management, who is selling under their name directly to people."

Kelley Masters, the home baker (www.homesweethomebakery.com) who spearheaded the grassroots movement that ultimately helped get the law passed, puts it more plainly: "If you spend \$100 at Walmart this Christmas, where is that money going? If you really want to Occupy Wall Street, spend your money locally. They don't really care that you're camping in a park. Stop spending your money; then they'll take notice." Masters, who makes special occasion cakes, was writing letters to her legislators as early as 2007 after learning that she could not legally make and sell wedding or baby-shower cakes from her home for friends and church members who requested them. "That's the story to me: We had to fight this hard just for this basic

right to make a cake or a cookie in our house and sell it locally.

"Even if we don't want to make a lot, we should be able to [operate small-scale home baked-goods businesses]. Some of the letters I got would break my heart — people whose husbands had lost their jobs or who had disabled children or were caring for elderly parents. There are people who can't leave their houses that could do this." Kolkhorst agrees that laws like this help give a leg up to those who need a personal economic stimulus: "One of the women who testified had a husband who had become ill and lost his job and had a daughter in college. She worked full-time during the day, and at night and on weekends, she baked cakes. That's how she was able to supplement her salary and hold the family together and keep them above the poverty line. How can you be against that?"

But SB 81 does not just provide opportunities for struggling wives and mothers to supplement their family's income, which was the dominant narrative surrounding the efforts to get it passed; it also provides opportunities for young, pastry-minded entrepreneurs to establish their businesses without going into hock.

Nora Eddings is a 27-year-old graduate of St. Edward's University who started baking as a hobby a number of years back. After receiving positive feedback from family and friends, she began looking into starting a small business. On Sept. 1, Eddings' new venture, the Conscious Cupcake (www.consciouscupcakeaustin.com), featuring goodies made from locally sourced organic eggs and milk, opened for business. "I'm really thankful that the bill has passed," she says. "We've been waiting for years for it to happen, and that it has finally gone through is a big victory and enables us to do something that we're passionate about and make a little money. We are legit now, and that's a good feeling."

"The cottage foods law is a pretty big step for home bakers," agrees Kristen Davenport, a 25-year-old vegan pastry chef who's been baking professionally for nearly four years. "It allows me to get my product out there. Most people aren't starting out with a lot of funds to get all the permits and everything, so the bill helps us get the word out." Davenport, who details her pastry undertakings, including an enticing-looking speculoos cupcake, at www.sugar-skull.com, hopes to own her own vegan pastry shop in Austin some day, and she sees the freedoms afforded her by SB 81 as a step toward achieving that goal.

Sometimes the reasons for pursuing a home-baking business are more complicated than survival or ambition. They're about identity. "As a stay-at-home mom, I need some sort of outlet," confesses Bircher, who has not yet officially turned on the lights for Sweet Pea Pies but plans to offer pies and pie pops for birthdays, weddings, and other occasions, as well as pie-making classes. "It's funny because my older daughter is getting to an age where we talk about what she's going to do someday, and she told me that she wants to stay home and dust and paint nails and let her husband go to work. And so part of this is about her not having a concept of me outside of 'mommy.'"

For Lindsey Long, the proprietor of Lollipop Cupcake Shop (www.lollipopcupcakeshop.com) who counts Dennis Quaid among her recent clients, SB 81 allows her the freedom to be creative (Long has perfected the rainbow cupcake, her signature treat) and set her own schedule. "I don't know what I would have done if the bill hadn't passed; I might have had to take out a loan to open up a shop," she muses. "It has been so empowering. It's like they say: 'Happy wife, happy life.'" What's more, Long asserts, it's the personal touch that makes goods like hers particularly special. "People should be able to make the choice to buy a cake from their neighbor rather than something that was just whipped up and shipped out to a big store, and at the same time helping her support her family rather than giving their money to some big chain."

Whether Texas home bakers will be able to wrest Thanksgiving pies (and birthday cupcakes and wedding cakes and so on) from the assembly line in the long run remains to be seen. What we do know is that if you can't or won't make a pie for your holiday dinner, chances are there is a woman nearby who would be happy to be your proxy. Eating locally never tasted so sweet. ■

For a user-friendly summary of the cottage food law, as well as a number of other resources regarding the law's history, consult the Texas Cottage Food Law website: www.texascottagefoodlaw.com.

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La Chaparrita

323-5404, www.lachaparritaatx.com

It is a rare occasion when we recommend mall food-court chow; most of it is chain-related or a bad local copy of a chain. Not so for Lima, Peru, native **Susana Osorio's** La Chaparrita, which opened last December, just before Macy's and Dillard's bailed out and Austin Community College decided that a less than frisky mall might make a good campus. Her sparkling walk-up counter is now the main attraction of a half-occupied food court; a recent lunch visit saw her getting the vast majority of the food court's business.

We started with a couple of appetizers. **Papa a la huancaína** (\$3.99) is excellent potato salad composed of tender sliced potatoes on a lettuce bed, covered with a creamy cheese and yellow *aji* chile sauce, topped with hard-boiled egg and black olives. **Ceviche** (\$7.99, and well worth it) is a



PHOTOS BY JOHN ANDERSON

traditional Peruvian dish, prepared here with fresh and firm tilapia in a zippy *leche de tigre* (lime and *rocoto* chile marinade), served with luscious sweet potato, corn on the cob, and crunchy *cancha* – the original corn nut. It is part aphrodisiac, part hang-over cure, and all delicious. Do not pass on the crunchy, mild, pickled red onions on your plate; they make everything taste better.

The **arroz con pollo** (\$5.99) is a platter of moist chicken with crisp skin resting on a bed of rich, chickeny rice flavored with onion, cilantro, peas, and red pepper. Definitely pour on the piquant and creamy green chile sauce offered to take it up a notch. **Aji de gallina** (\$5.99) is delectable shredded chicken breast in a seductive sauce of peanuts, milk, and cheeses, reminiscent of a North Indian korma sauce.

Two other dishes reflect the so-called Chifa Chinese immigrant influence found in Peru's cuisine. **Lomo saltado** (\$6.99) is a lean beef stir-fry of tomato, garlic, onion, and cilantro, loaded with flavor. It rests atop a mound of excellent fried potatoes: crispy on the outside and moist and luscious inside. The Peruvians practically invented the potato, and all of these effete local burger joints

that think they know how to make french fries are encouraged to drop by La Chaparrita for a lesson in humility. **Arroz chaufa** (\$6.99) is wonderful fried rice, loaded with bits of crunchy pork and chicken; seasoned with beaten eggs, green onion, and soy sauce; and topped with shrimp. It is old-school, not clumpy in the least, and very satisfying.

If any powdery white cookie sandwiches are available, grab a couple for after dinner. They're called **alfajores** – crunchy shortbread cookies enclosing a *manjar blanco* (reduced condensed milk) not-too-sweet filling, dusted with powdered sugar. Wonderful stuff. Likewise for the **chicha morada**, that famous anti-inflammatory, cholesterol-reducing purple corn drink made with cinnamon. It makes a nice digestif.

Highland Mall might not spring to mind when you think Peruvian food, but it really should.

– Mick Vann

Sauced

323-9003, www.saucedaustin.com

One would imagine that a pizza joint in a mall filled with college kids during the week would be a natural, and Sauced has replaced the previous Villa Pizza, serving beer and wine (which most students crave). The website promises handmade artisanal pizza and suggests that Sauced is bringing the food truck revolution indoors. I can't imagine its bank of Baker's Pride ovens in a trailer, but they are the right tool for the job. Owners **Annette Rhode** and **Carson Nunez** are culinary grads from ACC and are responsible for the sauces (marinara and alfredo), the sausage, the hamburger, and the pizza crust. The concept is simple, focusing on slices (\$2.75) with additional toppings added for 25 or 50 cents each, although 18-inch whole pies can also be had (\$14, plus \$1.25 per ingredient). Pasta (\$4) and salad (\$3) are also available; add chicken or beef (\$2) or seafood (\$3) to either. We tried a few slices recently and found them too cheesy, smothering the taste of the namesake sauce. Next up: Try a whole pie with alfredo sauce, bacon, rosemary, and roasted garlic.

– M.V.



Sauced owners Carson Nunez and Annette Rhode



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SECOND HELPINGS

From the Chronicle Restaurant Guide austinchronicle.com/restaurant

CAJUN FEVER

The Boiling Pot Like its sister restaurant on the Texas Coast, this joint serves up fresh boiled seafood of every variety. It has great shrimp, blue crabs, oysters on the half shell, crawfish (in season), boudin, gumbo, and red beans and rice. **700 E. Sixth.**

Captain TJ's Seafood They say the breading on the fried shrimp is perfect and crunchy, and the boudin sausage balls keep the line of regulars stretching to the parking lot. **1200-D W. Howard.**

Gumbo's This decade-old seafood emporium, located in the historic Brown building, keeps both regulars and newcomers coming back for fresh fruit-of-the-sea preparations like Redfish Francine. Oysters Rockefeller is one dish that never goes out of style, as are most of the swanky Cajun specialties such as blackened and grilled seafood, beef tenderloin, and seafood appetizers. **710 Colorado #100; three other locations.**

Kate's Southern Comfort This popular trailer near Zilker Park serves up Nak-i-Dish (ground pork and beef mixed with onions and stuffed inside a puff pastry crust), red beans and rice with juicy chunks of andouille sausage, and terrific crawfish pie. **8504 S. Congress.**

MoJoe Room Bar & Grill Knock back a few Flaming MoJoes at Austin's latest late-night *boîte*, piquing your appetite for Creole-style favorites. **6406 N. I-35 #1600.**

Nubian Queen Lola's Cajun Soul Food Kitchen A proprietress as friendly as her food is good serves up huge portions of burgers and Cajun chow from a succinct menu. The dining room is communal and friendly, and Lola is a blessing. **1815 Rosewood.**

The Original New Orleans Po-Boy and Gumbo Shop A subtle kick from the red beans and rice, combined with the perfect breading on the fried shrimp and oyster po'boys, makes everyone a crazy Cajun. **1603 S. Congress.**

Pappadeaux Seafood Kitchen Items here include po'boys, dinner plates, and combos with shrimp, oysters, and crab. Order the fish fried, blackened, or charbroiled, and sample a variety of side dishes. **6319 N. I-35.**

Parrain's Louisiana Kitchen This unassuming storefront just uphill from the lake still offers the beloved crawfish cakes with Mermaid sauce, as well as hearty gumbo, crusty po'boys, and a complete by-the-pound menu. **18653 FM 1431, Jonestown.**



Nubian Queen Lola's
Cajun Soul Food Kitchen

Quality Seafood Market is where all your favorite restaurants get their seafood, so you know it's the freshest. Daily specials could include lobster, shrimp pizza, king crab, or even Crack Pie. This place gets packed. **5621 Airport.**

Red's Porch The slogan promises "half Cajun, half Tex-Mex, half Southern." Enjoy ambivalence in the form of dinner. **3508 S. Lamar.**

Shoal Creek Saloon This Cajun oasis on Shoal Creek serves great South Louisiana chow and ice-cold beer, along with a warm and fuzzy ambience. On Fridays, try the grilled salmon with chipotle-cream sauce. **909 N. Lamar.**

RECENTLY REVIEWED

Lavaca Teppan

This old-school teppanyaki restaurant is located in an impressive, vibrant setting near campus. Try beef *tataki* and tempura don; thanks to the reasonable pricing, you'll be back for the rest. **1712 Lavaca, 520-8630.**

34th Street Cafe

This place has enjoyed neighborhood success and beyond for 16 years now. New chef Jason Tallent has revitalized the dinner menu but continues the tradition of exquisite food presented simply. Among the standards are some delicious jewels, such as Strube Ranch Wagyu flatiron steak and baby greens with shaved persimmon. **1005 W. 34th.**



PHOTOS BY JOHN ANDERSON

Chef
Jason
Tallent
of 34th
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*Dark brown sugar simple syrup: Dissolve 8 oz. dark brown sugar in 8 oz. hot water.



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Before long, we'll all be tired of Christmas cookies and bored with eggnog. And don't even mention that annual culinary punch line, fruitcake. Still, **food makes a great gift.** So take our advice on some slightly more original choices. *Newsweek* (Nov. 17, 2003)

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Going Back for 'Seconds'

CINEMA CLUB AND WILEY WIGGINS REVIVE A SIXTIES THRILLER

by Marc Savlov

I first saw John Frankenheimer's *Seconds* on a highly duped VHS tape a friend loaned me back in the mid-1980s. I remember he told me "it was right up my alley." It turned out he knew me better than I thought he did. It's a hallucinatory nightmare alley, with queasy, decadent angles and a sick neon light at the end of it. You get the feeling, watching Frankenheimer's remarkable film, that Rod Serling's *Twilight Zone* is maybe one block over. (He had, indeed, directed several of Serling's sucker-punch scripts – *The Comedian* and *A Town Has Turned to Dust* – for CBS television's famed Playhouse 90.)

Seconds, the subject of the Alamo Drafthouse and guest programmer Wiley Wiggins' upcoming Cinema Club, is the story of Arthur Hamilton (John Randolph), an aging, frustrated suit-and-tie guy who, in a very Serling-esque touch, is given the chance to retire his old, broken-down body and assume a new, more youthful (and presumably less angst-ridden) physique. This is done by a shadowy group known only as the Company, and soon enough Arthur Hamilton is no more. In his place (and with his consciousness) is strapping young Rock Hudson's Tony Wilson. However, Mr. Hamilton/Wilson's problems have only just begun.

"*Seconds* is interesting to me," says Wiggins, "because it's a movie that could have just been an extra-long *Twilight Zone* episode, but it has some really amazing stylistic flourishes that make it stand out, even against other Frankenheimer movies of the same period. I've always found *The Manchurian Candidate* to be a little stagey and flat.

"*Seconds* stands out for me, though. In particular, James Wong Howe's camerawork

is really unusual for the time, and the [Jerry Goldsmith] score is especially haunting. Stars of the Lid sampled it pretty heavily for their album *The Tired Sounds of Stars of the Lid*. The closing scene, with its spare piano strikes, would be iconic if more people were familiar with the film."

Released in October 1966, *Seconds* was a commercial flop but a personal triumph – not only for the director, who was just emerging from dramatic television's golden age (alongside fellow director Sidney Lumet and writers Paddy Chayefsky, Horton Foote, and Serling), but also for Hudson, who was no longer quite the Sirkian Adonis or the witty romantic lead of *Pillow Talk*. Hudson flexes his acting chops here, and the result is the most memorable and unnerving performance of his career.

It helps that Frankenheimer's director of photography, Howe (*Sweet Smell of Success*), employed various and sundry camera tricks – some made up right on the spot – to imbue *Seconds* with its anxious tone and decidedly nontraditional look.

Fish-eye lenses, extremely wide lenses, and successively stranger imagery throughout (check out Saul Bass' disorienting title sequence) bode well for none of the characters here.

"I think the best thing that the movie has to offer audiences now isn't anything obvious relating to the plot, but how fresh it seems stylistically compared to so many movies now," adds Wiggins. "There's something very intimate and restrained about this movie that is unexpected and that no studio would allow in a genre film now, if indeed there still are any films that aren't explicitly genre films now." ■

Wiley Wiggins will introduce John Frankenheimer's *Seconds* and lead a post-film discussion on Sunday, Nov. 27, 7pm, at the Alamo Drafthouse at the Ritz.

What Are You Looking At?

THANKSGIVING VIEWING GUIDE

Ah, television. That wonderful easer of social anxieties. That delightful reliever of familial tensions. It fills the awkward silences and provides soothing white noise for tryptophan comas, drowns out your racist great-aunt's polemics, and bridges the divide between generations – because, really, who can't agree that the *Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade* is boring as shit? Whether you're spending the day with family or friends or on your own, it'll include some quality time on the couch. Here's our handy guide to TV's Thanksgiving assault of holiday spirit.

– Kimberley Jones

7-8:30am: *The Fresh Prince of Bel Air* (TBS). Yo, homes. Three back-to-back episodes of the Banks family carving turkey and cutting up.

9am: *Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade*. TVGuide.com's preview promises more than 800 clowns. Like that's a selling point?

9am: *Meet Me in St. Louis* (TCM). This season-spanning MGM musical set on the eve of the 1904 World's Fair is revered for Judy Garland's rendition of "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas." Because it's never too early to get weepy.

9:30am-4:30am: KLRU-Create will be looping Thanksgiving-themed cooking shows from its vault, including *America's Test Kitchen* and *Julia and Jacques Cooking at Home*. Don't blame us if you spend the rest of the day aping Julia Childs' delightfully frog-throated trill and Frenchie Jacques Pépin's inscrutable accent. And a tip for the cook trapped in the kitchen sans TV: From 10am to noon, KUT airs *The Splendid Table* host Lynne Rossetto Kasper's annual *Turkey Confidential* Thanksgiving call-in special.

10am: *Man v. Food Nation*: "The Feast Special" (Travel Channel). Adam Richman crashes various interpretations of the Thanksgiving feast, from Hawaiian luau to proper Plimouth Plantation-style. This may raise expectations for your own festivities, but do resist the urge to do an impromptu hula dance, unless you want your iPhone-packing evil niece posting the video to YouTube by dessert.

11am: *Food Jammers*: "Dehydrated Turkey" (Cooking Channel). The brainiacs at *Food Jammers* build a dehydrator to make their turkey portable for a camping trip. This one's all about lowering the bar back down for your own T-Day spread. Turkey turn out a little tough? At least it wasn't dried, reconstituted, and served in the wild. *Burn*.

Noon: *National Dog Show* (NBC): It seems self-explanatory enough, but that didn't stop NBC from posting a "How To Watch a Dog Show" video to its website.

Midafternoon nostalgia block: Various channels will be running marathons, including *Roseanne* (Oxygen, 6am-6pm), *The Andy Griffith Show* (TV Land, 7am-5:49pm), *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* (Chiller, 5am-2pm), *Martin* (MTV2, 2-7:30pm), and *Arrested Development* (IFC, 5am-11:30pm). Netflix streaming also has options: We recommend Thanksgiving-specific episodes of *Sports Night* (108: "Thespis"), *The Cosby Show* (609: "Cliff's Wet Adventure"), and *Cheers* (509: "Thanksgiving Orphans").

1:45pm: *The Great Outdoors* (Encore). Of course, John Candy's *Planes, Trains and Automobiles* is the Thanksgiving classic, but it's nowhere to be found on TV, so why not get your Candy fix with this awesomely goofy 1988 comedy co-starring Dan Aykroyd? Not recommended if you happen to be serving hot dogs for dinner. ("You know what they make those things out of, Chet? *You know?* Lips and assholes.")

And while we're (sort of) on the subject: Actual Thanksgiving-themed movies are surprisingly underrepresented on the big day. You can stream a couple on Netflix (*Dutch, Miracle on 34th Street*) and rent a couple more (*The Family Stone*, *Pieces of April*) from iTunes, but for the very best of the genre – Jodie Foster's family dramedy *Home for the Holidays*, no contest – you'll have to wait until 3am on Friday morning to catch it on OWN.



4:2pm: *Miracle on 34th Street* (NBC). The original 1947 tearjerker.

5pm: *Better Than Black Friday* (QVC). Credit cards, start your engines.

7pm: *Texas at Texas A&M* (ESPN). The Longhorns and Aggies' historic last encounter as Big 12 rivals.

7pm: *A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving* (ABC). As Marcie puts it, "Thanksgiving is more than eating, Chuck." She's right. It's also about the cozy rite of reuniting with the *Peanuts* gang.

7:30pm: "Happiness Is a Warm Blanket, Charlie Brown" (Fox). This 2011 produced short sees Linus struggling to say goodbye to his blanket.

8:30pm: *A Very Gaga Thanksgiving* (ABC). Lady Gaga cuddles up to Tony Bennett and friends for performances that mix the Gaga backlog with Christmas standards.

9pm: *The 85th Anniversary of the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade* (NBC). Matt Lauer hosts this special retrospective. No word on the clown count.

9pm: *Elf* (USA). Likably twee comedy with Will Ferrell and Zooey Deschanel.

9pm: *The Lady Eve* (TCM): All turkeyed out? Consider this Preston Sturges classic screwball comedy for secular counterprogramming.

10pm: *Punkin Chunkin 2011* (DSC). Annual competition of "backyard engineers who turn pumpkins into projectiles." A word of warning: If your meal hasn't settled yet, this might inspire a different kind of chunking.



JOHN ANDERSON

The Art and the Arduousness

Daniel Kliewer's hypnotic moving paintings

BY MARC SAVLOV

As anyone who participated in the recent East Austin Studio Tour can attest, it feels as if we've reached some sort of artistic event horizon here in Austin. We're experiencing a moment when the city is positively exploding with a whole new generation of artists in all disciplines, utilizing every known – and, in the case of digital artist Daniel Kliewer, sometimes only semiknown – medium. You're as likely to find a new filmmaking collective going over plot points at Justine's as you are to find a rebel theatre troupe plotting the death of Shakespeare via fire-dancing mimes around the Spider House fire pit. Which tempts a question: Is Robert Hughes' concept of "the shock of the new" possible anymore? And does it even matter? After all, in chaotic new times, there's comfort to be found in the known, no?

Enter lanky, 27-year-old Kliewer, looking every bit the old-art guard magicked into the manic, frenetic fold of the modern. Utilizing cast-off computers and some serious outsider art skills, Kliewer's created a digital artwork-cum-animation technique that he calls "moving paintings." Comparisons to Bob Sabiston's groundbreaking rotoscoping animation in Linklater's *Waking Life* are technically apt but totally inaccurate and, frustratingly, miss the point. Kliewer's moving paintings in their digital frames are, according to him, meant more to be ambient background art rather than the focus of attention. (Something of a revolutionary idea for an artist of any kind to put forward in the first place.)

Experimental? Avant-garde? Yes to both, but Kliewer's ecstatically vibrant moving

paintings feel like more than simple digital tomfoolery gussied up for gallery installation. There's something new going on here, and although it's difficult to pinpoint in words why his work is so powerful, the fact remains that it is – so much so that it almost immediately attracted the attention of Austin Film Society Director of Programming Chale Nafus, who premiered Kliewer's feature-length animation, *Ritual in Circular Time*, as part of the Avant Cinema series this past October. Not a bad debut gig for the artist, who moved to Austin just over a year ago from Temple and remains virtually unknown within this city's overflowing arts community.

"It's been a really productive year for me," explains Kliewer, sitting on a chair in the closet-sized side lot of his East Austin home. "Basically I spent almost an entire year just producing creative work every day. At one point my routine was working 12 hours a day, seven days a week. Twelve hours just doing painting and working on the computer. There was about a four-month stretch where it was that rigorous."

A graduate of the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor near his native Temple (major: history; minor: philosophy), Kliewer uses Wacom tablets and discarded or homebrewed PCs to hybridize hand-drawn images with the varied and variegated styles of other, better-known artists (say, for instance, Vincent van Gogh). Using his PC's screen capture feature, he then loops the resultant, newborn imagery into a circuitous, altogether mesmerizing meditation on the cre-

ation and dissolution of art itself. Or not. With Kliewer, the viewer's interpretation of the images is every bit as important, or possibly more so, than the artist's intent. Or so says the artist.

"I've been painting and creating art my entire life. When I was a little kid, I didn't have toys, but I did have aluminum foil, so I'd make my own toys out of the foil. And ever since then I've kind of been amusing myself by creating my own art."

"Wait. When you were little you had no toys at all?" I ask.

"Well, I had *some* toys, but I *chose* the aluminum foil over other toys. You could create whatever you wanted and then destroy it or whatever."

"And for your birthday they gave you the pricey Reynolds Wrap instead of the cheap generic stuff that'd rust if you left it out in the rain, right?"

"Right, right."

"OK, we get it. But for a moment there it sounded like you were born during the Depression, or possibly *The Jerk*."

"No, it was actually pretty great. I've been painting and drawing my whole life, but I started getting seriously into canvas art, mostly pastel, acrylic, and oils, around age 20. I ended up selling somewhere around 70 paintings between 2004 and 2009. Which sounds like a lot, but if you drop your price, you can sell a lot of paintings. My main focus was doing pastel portraits. I'd spend all day every day just figuring out how to draw faces. And then I had an accident"

On Feb. 24, 2010, Kliewer explains, "I got up to go running in the morning and slipped on a patch of ice – that was the one day of the year we had ice in Temple – and basically disabled my right arm for a whole year. I had nerve damage which then developed into complex regional pain syndrome, which is more like a postural problem, really. I've spent the last three to four months going to physical therapy and correcting that, so I'm most of the way better, but not entirely"

At the time, Kliewer was making a living waiting tables when he wasn't working on his art, although, as things tend to do in minuscule Texas towns, work and art converged.

"Temple's a small town, so people actually like talking to other people. There's not much else to do. I would show my customers pictures of the paintings I was working on, which was a really great way [to get tips]."

Although he was raised around computers (his first was a Commodore 64), at the time of the accident, Kliewer didn't have a computer of his own. After his tumble – and the resultant inability to continue waiting tables – he purchased an inexpensive Gateway PC and began learning coding from the ground up, and from his bed, where his doctors suggested he remain until the nerve damage healed.

"That was probably the exact opposite of what my treatment should have been," he says, "but since I suddenly had so much free time, I just sort of began learning everything I could about computer science and programming. At one point I taught myself Linux."

And then one day

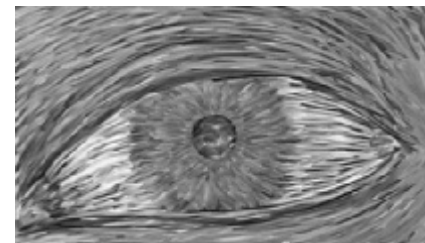
"And then one day I realized I could use Photoshop's paint tools to paint, for example, the Mona Lisa, but who's going to care about that? Anybody could use a filter and do the same thing, so the only way I could prove that it took real artistic ability to make 'painted' art via Photoshop was to capture the screen. And that was the core idea that, eventually, led to *Ritual in Circular Time*."

Kliewer's lightbulb idea – using a series of time-lapse screen captures to show how the virtual brushstrokes of Photoshop combined to create a genuine work of original art – galvanized his creative energies and eventually led him to the other core idea behind his moving paintings.

"I thought, 'The best way to display something like this would be to have it in a digital picture frame,' ... so I bought a cheap one from China. Once I figured out the archaic coding scheme that I needed to upload the video, the pieces started to come together. Up to that point I had been using the mouse to operate Photoshop, but I switched to using a Wacom tablet not long after. That was in late September of 2010."

Flash forward to spring 2011 and a chance encounter with AFS' Chale Nafus, who immediately programmed the artist's *Ritual in Circular Time* into the Avant Cinema schedule after Kliewer showed him a two-minute sample loop on his iPhone.

For now, Kliewer is busy creating a series of specially modified monitors – hand-painted, with their own laptops attached – as additional platforms for displaying *Ritual in Circular Time* and other, future moving paintings.



Ritual in Circular Time

"Because film loops back on itself ... it was really meant to be something encountered, maybe, in the background, like a painting, rather than a primary piece of narrative film. The idea is that you can just come in any time [in the film] and leave at any time.

To me, what's more important is human interaction. That's one of the things that I kind of don't like about traditional film media – it's so engrossing that it precludes real life."

There's something very, dare we say, *Slacker*-esque about the idea that this high-tech digital art should function, more or less, as a backdrop to decidedly low-tech human interactions like, say, lounging around Quack's discussing the merits of a vegan lifestyle or the 8mm work of Maya Deren. But ultimately that's Kliewer's point: "It's captivating enough that you can watch it, but it's not so captivating that you aren't going to be able to think about other things, or interact with other people." ■

For a video excerpt of *Ritual in Circular Time*, see this story online at www.austinchronicle.com/screens.

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IN A SERIES VOL 4 * NO 1 * COLLECT 'EM ALL

[Editor's note: The following was intended as the debut of "One, Two, Tres, Cuatro," but matters of life and death intervened last week.]

The phrase danced around in my life, but one day in the mid 1970s, it appeared as the headline for a story in the *Austin Sun*. The cover was purple – not the garish purple misstep of the *Chronicle*'s first issue, but a clear lavender surrounding a ragtag group photo of **Willie Nelson**'s family.

John T. Davis wrote the story, something I recall with a latent pang of envy, for we were both around 22 and unofficially in the elementary grade of young writers at the *Sun*. And there he was getting a cover story, "The Sum Is Greater Than the Whole of Its Parts." Perhaps his being a more accomplished writer had something to do with it, but I was brash enough to imagine I ranked.

The phrase floated and fermented, took on a different shade there in the warm family of the *Sun*, which I joined in May 1976. We posed one chilly night at the 16th Street offices for the photo **Kerry Awn** then drew as the **Soap Creek Saloon** calendar. I'd set my hair in hot rollers for that tumbly, curled **Farrah Fawcett** look every woman tried at least once and wore a **Uranium Savages** T-shirt while holding a puppy named **Rhiannon**. I'm ready for my close-up, Mr. Awn.

The biweekly publication bore radical chic bloodlines in Editor **Jeff Nightbyrd**, who'd been deposed by feminists as editor of the militant underground newspaper **Rat** and who then served as national vice president of **Students for a Democratic Society**. Around him gathered a storm of young and veteran talents – writerly ones like **Michael Ventura**, yes, but also photographers like **Alan Pogue** and artists like **Jack Jackson**. In the illustration, Nightbyrd strokes his beard, a common stance for him. Nearby is sportswriter-turned-E! TV founder **Big Boy Medlin**, whom I truly worshipped, and Music editor-turned-record label honcho **Bill Bentley**, my longtime friend who then regarded me as an upstart usurper.

Managing Editor **Dave Moriarty** raised his arm in a show of strength; here was a character whose part in the sum I wouldn't fully grok for many years. He scared me then, this Port Arthur refugee with penetrating eyes who helped found **Rip Off Press** in San Francisco. At the *Sun* reunion a couple of years back, he grinned at me: "You were a young pup who wanted to play with the old dogs, but thought you had to act the whore like **Janis [Joplin]**."

It was the truth. With no previous experience or high school diploma, I sought out the *Austin Sun*, and here we were in the class picture.

Less celebrated were the women of the *Sun*, intrepid saleswomen like **Deb Stall**, who actually got businesses to buy ads that made it possible to collect those \$15-a-week checks, or **Carlene Brady**, whose artistic vision shaped the paper in ways never fully acknowledged. And the marvelous presence of **Sara Clark**, who took the time to explain to me not only what defined sans serif fonts but why fonts

mattered and the artistry of their appearance. She also graciously explained to me why the wet jockey shorts contest I proposed was not really the solution to the wet T-shirt contests so popular then. When Sara died some years ago, I felt her loss in innate ways.

That calendar is the perfect freeze-frame for that moment in a discontented, disconnected life. I had no clue what writing about rock & roll would mean, or that almost all the people in the drawing would still be in my life 35 years later. In Kerry Awn's black, inky style, we were the sum, so much greater than the whole of our parts.

During the *Sun* years, I worked many short-term jobs to support my writing habit. They were often restaurant or mall store jobs, easily gotten and easily discarded. One job I particularly liked was at a medieval-themed restaurant, which piqued my interest in British history and early music. The restaurant hired several dozen twentysomethings to play the parts of servers and performers, roles adopted with such enthusiasm that "**Roll Me Over in the Clover**" became offstage sport as well as an onstage song.

The staff/cast partied like ... well, like young men and women in their late teens and 20s, wild and free and in the throes of the Bicentennial America of *Dazed and Confused*. The attractive, hormone-heavy cast – often aspiring performers or actors – wove youthful marriages already falling apart into new relationships, friendships, gender-orientation exploration, and other carefree pursuits. And lots of sex.

I wasn't a performer. I answered the phone and took reservations using a fake English accent, one polished in junior high. For this job, I adopted the mannered tone of **Julie Christie** in *Far From the Madding Crowd* effectively enough to land the position and loved its fun and freedom. Even the manager was cute, so I wasn't upset when, one morning as I wrote in the reservation book, he slipped up behind me and pressed his erection against my bottom. He was new on the job, one day. I slept with him that night.

A few days later, the restaurant's owner flew in from England – straight out of London Central Casting with a pasty complexion, tobacco-colored teeth, and a dyed comb-over. The second day he was there, I was dispatched to his hotel room to deliver papers, and he answered the door wearing a bathrobe. Once inside, he – the owner of the company – riffled the papers then asked how much to spank me. I don't remember what I did, probably giggled and ran out.

Was that sexual harassment? Maybe with the manager, though I was foolish and horny, and he was around my age. Definitely with the owner, who was at least 25 years older than me. Still, it's not the same occupational hazard of having to extract myself from the unsolicited clutch of a subject I'm interviewing. The last time was a legendary blues singer. He took my hand, gazed meaningfully in my eyes, and tickled my palm suggestively.

I just smiled, shook his hand, and thanked him for making great music.

Uwaga!

I left my heart in Warsaw

BY RAOUL HERNANDEZ

Smok Wawelski, the Wawel Dragon, still breathes fire.

On the underside of Wawel Hill in Kraków, Poland, the skeletal bronze statue lights up every five minutes, keeping alive the 12th century Polish folklore of the thunder lizard Prince Krakus stepped to as dragon slayer. Smok/Smaug: paging J.R.R. Tolkien.

Kraków's lookout point, Wawel Hill – in Polish the W is pronounced as a V – is the seat of the former capital's castle and cathedral. Centuries of royal tombs stack the latter, enormous marble sarcophagi carved with fallen kings and queens and knights. Downstairs, under armed guard, lies Polish President Lech Kaczyński, who was killed last April with 95 others when a delegation honoring World War II Polish POWs crashed in Russia.

Walking back to the old town square on this first afternoon in Polska, high on a tall doorway, is the gig poster we never dreamed of searching out: Behemoth. No. 1 with a bullet belt on my Polski hit parade.

Trumpeter Tomasz Stańko and his decades of jazz balladry for ECM Records, the Iron Curtain Catholicism of Polish film posters, and just this month, the Criterion Collection's DVD box of Krzysztof Kieślowski's *Three Colors* film trilogy: Polish touchstones all. Zbigniew Preisner's soundtrack for Kieślowski's luminous *The Double Life of Véronique*, and all his film scores for the late *Decalogue* director, plucks a classical haunting of the chapel.

Behemoth stomping Stubb's, April 2008, sandwiched between symphonic Norwegian black metallers Dimmu Borgir and Trondheim, Norway, swordsmen Keep of Kalessin ("Kalessin" being the dragon from Ursula K. Le Guin's *Earthsea* series), awakened my long-dormant metal gene.

John Lennon headbanger "Polythene Pam" from the Beatles' *Abbey Road*, the first album I ever bought, proved my gateway to Kiss, Led Zeppelin, AC/DC, Thin Lizzy, Scorpions, etc. In college, 1983-1987 – after the latter act's *Love at First Sting* – I scrapped my air guitar, returning the Columbia House 13-tapes-for-a-penny selection of Metallica's *Master of Puppets* with a note: "This isn't music." Twenty years it took me to catch up on 20 years.

Built in Gdańsk, Behemoth had likely played Austin before. "I'm not sure," wavered Adam "Nergal" Darski, "black emperor of Behemoth" as credited on 1994 debut *And the Forests Dream Eternally*, in advance of an Emo's follow-up last year (see "Alas, Lord is Upon Me," Earache! Music blog, Jan. 7, 2010). That twilight set at Stubb's, lit by torches and the setting sun – flanked by Slayer-like steel stage standards bearing a Polish national eagle with two heads – Darski and his corpse-painted body armor division made metal fun. And heavy as all Hades. The veteran showmanship Darski demonstrated and the precision of his group recalled peak Scorpions and their frontman, Klaus Meine.

"I became a huge Scorpions fan lately," admitted Darski.

If metal and its oft-analogous militaristic parallels some-



*They're a fierce people,
the Polish, hardened survivors with
their heads held high.*

how begin with boys playing army, Hannover, Germany's Scorpions once marched to a blitzkrieg of post-Krautrock blues shot through with lightning-storm guitars. Behemoth began at European black metal's skinning of American thrash – basically UK prog-metal punks Iron Maiden bastardized by Metallica – and metastasized past landmarks Venom, Bathory, and Celtic Frost into a singular beast of Eastern bloc heavy inevitability. Vader, Decapitated, and Hate, whose April storming at Emo's brought to mind Behemoth, stamp Polish metal its own export.

"Why did the Germans harbor such hatred towards the Polish?" I ask our guide the next day at Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp, 90 minutes south of Kraków by bus. Her family long native to the region, which today "lives in the shadow of Auschwitz," she reveals that Germans and Poles get along famously now, but Poland remains a vital point of transit interchange in Eastern Europe. A Polish man steps forward and points out the region's abundant food productivity. Our next night's train from Kraków to Warsaw tracks nothing but farmland.

Location, location, location Poland's monstrous fates, but Warsaw rises like a phoenix from the Holocaust. Kraków miraculously escaped destruction even though its Jewish district – where a Tomasz Stańko poster peels off a back-alley wall – is ghostly absent. Warsaw rose from rubble into Soviet occupation now modernized as urban hip ("Stalin's wedding cake" is one nickname for its Palace of

DECAPITATED

Like the Netherlands-born Van Halen brothers, guitarist Wacław "Vogg" Kiełtyka and his drummer brother Witold "Vitek" Kiełtyka shared metal and DNA, the former 15 and the latter 11 or 12 years old in 1996 when Decapitated tried technical death metal in Krosno, Poland. In a bonus DVD for 2000 debut *Winds of Creation*, shot in the UK four years later, Vogg and bassist Marcin "Martin" Rygiel churn blond hair windmills while hammering out lightning-fast musical matrices, the inversion of jazz in many ways, genre extremes of opposite directions requiring unquestioned ability. Vitek, then barely 20, sits straight up with a look of calm concentration and mild consternation at times, his rail-thin torso and bony arms a concentration of movement. His animation's minimal, but the machine-gun fusillade of kick drum isn't. When Decapitated's tour bus collided with a truck hauling wood in Belarus in 2007, both he and the band's singer, Adrian "Covan" Kowanek, sustained serious injuries. Scheduled to return to Kraków, he died in a Russian hospital at 23. Vogg, six-string gravedigger on 2009's *Necropolis* for perennial Poles Vader, staged Decapitated's stunning comeback on July's *Carnival Is Forever*. – R.H.



STUDIO DISCOGRAPHY

Carnival Is Forever (2011) ★★★★★
Organic Hallucinosi (2006) ★★★★★
The Negation (2004) ★★★
Nihility (2002) ★★
Winds of Creation (2000) ★★★★★

Culture and Science). Kraków's the East Village, while Warsaw's all of New York City, or as KUT's Jay Trachtenberg put it, the Paris of the East. They're a fierce people, the Polish, hardened survivors with their heads held high.

Friday, Oct. 14, our last day in Warsaw and Poland, Behemoth played in Kraków. A week later when we were home in Austin, Behemoth ended its 20th anniversary tour in Warsaw. Agnieszka and myself and 50 others had been serenaded by the Cracow Chamber Orchestra animating Vivaldi's "The Four Seasons" in a baroque church, and in Warsaw she and I tracked down Chopin's heart, but Behemoth's Phoenix Rising Tour eluded us.

Only a month earlier, Darski had been cover boy of the Polish *Newsweek*. While touring Behemoth's ninth and best studio LP, *Evangelion* – eight months after we'd spoken – he was diagnosed with leukemia. "Blackened death metal" translates as "cult" in the U.S., but it's a forked tongue spoken globally, and its platform helped locate a bone marrow donor for Darski that December. His appearance this fall on state TV for the Polish version of *The Voice* ended after he reportedly dressed as a priest at Behemoth's Warsaw concert. Tearing up Bibles as show never did Darski any favors in the deeply Catholic Republic of Poland. *Uwaga!* proclaim caution signs everywhere.

Polish metal got me to Poland sure as Continental Airlines. Warsaw's Hate, opening for black metal fatalities Mayhem at Emo's Dec. 4, makes me homesick for Poland.

Then again, Hate's previous local pounding came in support of an explosively tribal thrash metal band – Rotting Christ.

Like hell-bent newcomers Ravencult unleashing *Morbid Blood*, they're Greek. ■

Norwegian black metal blueprint Mayhem rolls into Emo's Sunday, Dec. 4, with fellow homelands Keep of Kalessin, Warsaw's Hate, and L.A. openers Abigail Williams.

STAŃKONIA

"We have a special light [in Poland], not dark, but gray," Polish trumpet vanguard Tomasz Stańko told me at the Montreal Jazz Festival last year. "A lot of grays. This gray, when you open your eyes, it's the first light you see. You remember that forever." Here are four four-star ECM titles illustrating precisely that. – R.H.



Balladyna (1976)

Battle royale quartet, featuring double-bass behemoth Dave Holland.

Litanie – Music of Krzysztof Komeda (1997)

Affecting tribute to Polish film composer, pianist, and Stańko's onetime boss.

Soul of Things (2002)

Fusion of Stańko and his atomic Polski backing trio.

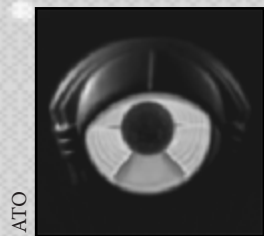
Suspended Night (2004)

Sulfurous balladyna.



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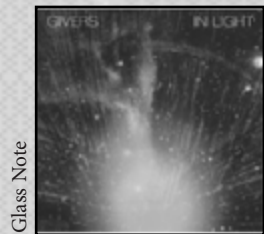
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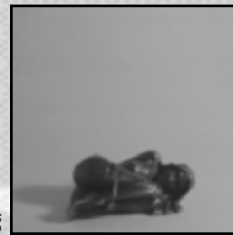
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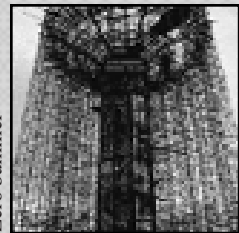
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KGSR Broadcasts Vol. 19 (93.3 KGSR Radio Austin)

Incredibly, *Broadcasts* just gets better. After the departure of the series' founding producer, KGSR programmer, ideologue, and deejay Jody Denberg, the local station's 2-CD annual fundraiser for the SIMS Foundation wobbled almost imperceptibly. With Andy Langer at the helm, *Broadcasts Vol. 19* opens with a bang (Band of Horses' "Laredo") and looks only forward from there (Foster the People's stripped "Pumped Up Kicks") until it winds down 39 tracks later with Jimmie Vaughan twanging it local-like on "Comin' & Goin'." Any year assembles its soundtrack arbitrarily, yet tag-teaming the like-minded (Raphael Saadiq's "Stone Rollin'" into Fitz & the Tantrums' "MoneyGrabber," both encored to gritty perfection by Ryan Bingham and Mumford & Sons), KGSR again proves an astute prognosticator of annual currents and a reliable guide. Plus, any record producer will tell you that lady luck was involved in most successful orchestrations, and many moments prove magic: Sam Beam's coolly breathtaking "Tree by the River," Charlie Mars' "Mississippi" drawl, and Dawes doing Fleet Foxes one better ("If I Wanted Someone"). Back-to-backs are dead-on – Joe Ely's "Me & Billy the Kid" paired with Hayes Carll's "KMAG YOYO" – and surprises are ripe (Cold War Kids' "Louder Than Ever"). Grace Potter needs to dial it down, and Lissie as well, but the locals (Nakia, Quiet Company) fit right in. Black Joe Lewis & the Honeybears' "Booty City," which at its *Austin City Limits* taping in June nearly set off the sprinklers, only hints at night here ending the first CD, but Steve Earle setting up Willie Nelson's blue "Valentine" at the close of the second disc makes mixtape nirvana. Sequencing even camouflages the dips in the road (Guster/Scars on 45/Sara Bareilles). Bob Schneider and Sarah Jarosz: the king and queen of the prom. *Broadcasts Vol. 19*, audio yearbook Austin, 2011. Westside.

★★★★

— Raoul Hernandez



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SubKulture Patriots

**Vol. 1 Issue 1
(Ruler Why)**

Queue up any clip from SubKulture Patriots' debut LP, *Vol. 1 Issue 1*, and you'll find a competent, at times complex, rhyme scheme. You just won't find much focus. *Issue*'s second verse: "I'm on my own type of zone like a thrown microphone/ Take a zone to the dome, see if I can make it home." The four members of the new collective – the Brain, former Diasporic wordsmith Cap'n Kirk, Short Bus Alumni alumnus RuDi Devino, and Boo Radley – rev "A6" muscle, "Anthem" throwing hands up before the G-funk of "Roll w/ SKP," but each flows like filler rap. Behind the hustle and bravado are quick fixes ("Not hut one, it's on two/We strong proof") and old tricks ("Austin," "Treez"), excess that could be trimmed from the lengthy 14 tracks. Promising stuff, but *Issue 2* will need an editor.

★★

— Chase Hoffberger



Attempt at Focus") and rocks beats that would fit on a Doomtree disc. The latter's dynamic MC Dessa contributes both verse and hook to "This Bridge Is Burning for You," a murky bit of intergalactic futurism that, along with the angelic "A Prayer" (sung by Mother Falcon's Claire Puckett), keeps *Miracle*'s first half from boiling over. Its flip side never stood a chance. The disco-ballroom blitz of "True Romance" kick-starts a "Cold War (Question I)" of industrial strikes ("Meiko Kaji") and Midwest madness (the title track), cold-shouldered, conceptual aggression that pits P-Tek's mic styles somewhere between Mac Lethal and former local Paradox.

★★★

— Chase Hoffberger

Sons of Fathers (Blanco River)

File under Most Ridiculous Cease and Desist Ever. This local roots-rock act, fronted by David Beck and Paul Cauthen, used to be called Beck & Cauthen until Beck ("Loser") insisted the band change its name. The duo changed its name to Sons of Fathers in September, which delayed the release of this solid debut a month, but rest assured: It's worth the wait, ridiculousness notwithstanding. Pure Texicana with Lloyd Maines' seal of approval (he contributes pedal steel and Dobro), standouts include "Flatland," matching laconic harmonies with a driving honky-tonk rhythm, and the similarly propulsive, finger-picked title track. The bluesy "Ruthless" offers a heartwarming



P-Tek *Oh! What a Miracle!*

"Greetings From the Life!" – for P-Tek, life happens in Austin, even if the sound on second LP *Oh! What a Miracle!* comes from an Iowa native. Tek, who relocated to Cap City in 2008, spits with the pointed focus of Atmosphere's Slug ("An

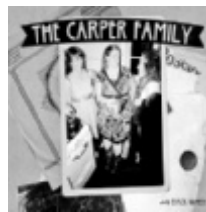


For the Sake of the Song

BY JIM CALIGIURI

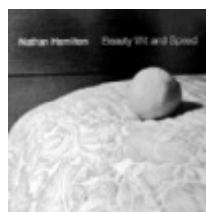
The Carper Family *Back When*

Ever wonder why Austin never spawned a female answer to hillbilly Wayne Hancock? Check out the Carper Family. In spite of their youth, Melissa Carper (bass), Beth Chrisman (fiddle), and Jenn Miori (guitar) blend their voices immaculately, kick some shit when they have to, and write warm and enticing songs that sound like they were new 50 years ago. Guests Cindy Cashdollar and Brennen Leigh light the way. ★★★★★



Nathan Hamilton *Beauty Wit and Speed (Ironrust)*

Still traveling the roots-rock path he's known for, Nathan Hamilton matures before our ears on *Beauty Wit and Speed*. A meditation on time, aging, and how technology accelerates life, it hearkens more to the dark moods and fiery crashes of the Waterboys, but from the point of view of someone born in Abilene. Bonus points for recording an honest-to-god whole album in the age of downloaded singles. ★★★



Amanda Shires *Carrying Lightning*

A Lubbock native some may remember from the Thrift Store Cowboys, Amanda Shires has delivered a second disc that finds her balancing dusky overtones with occasional buoyancy. In the process, the fiddler and singer-songwriter lands somewhere between the perkiness of Dolly Parton, whom she resembles vocally on occasion, and the disquieting poetry of Richard Buckner. Consider the haunting and dynamic "When You Need a Train It Never Comes" a late candidate for song of the year. ★★★



Reed Turner *Side One: See How Far I Get*

Tumbling from Austin to Boston, Nashville, Tenn., to Portland, Ore., Reed Turner's absorbed lots of influences. This six-song EP, fashioned after one side of a vinyl LP, is the perfect length to expose his multifaceted songwriting. Roots-rock-based, there are echoes of the Avett Brothers and some Red Dirt country, but set-closing meditation "Acrobats & Soldiers" marks Turner as a blossoming Texas troubadour. ★★★



Graham Wilkinson *The Spiritual Accessories E.P. (Little Windmill)*

While its five songs purportedly deal with spirituality on different levels, *The Spiritual Accessories E.P.* doesn't deliver enough variety or insight. With a reggae bounce and whispered rasp, Wilkinson recalls Michael Franti channeling Bob Schneider, but instead of enticing, he becomes annoying. Anthemic standout "This World" begs "Tell me one thing I've never heard before," and one wishes he'd delivered on the sentiment. ★★

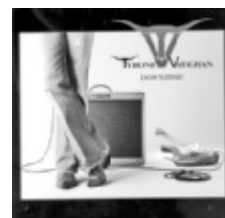


expression of masculine regret. This is country music as Texan as chicken-fried steak. **(CD release: Saturday, Nov. 26, the Scoot Inn)** ★★★★★

— Melanie Haupt

Tyrone Vaughan *Downtime*

Tyrone Vaughan's jeans, torn and frayed at the hem, yet pressed into a clean crease for the sharp-dressed man on the cover of his debut CD, *Downtime*, are designer. The blue color stands for youthful years woodshedding in Breedlove with Dan Dyer, but the attitude is pure Vaughan: handsome, charismatic, and as classically stylish as the red Fender he



sports. And if it's blues expected from the son of Jimmie Vaughan and nephew of Stevie Ray Vaughan, *Downtime* picks up fiddle and steel and two-steps that Strat to the dance floor. Vaughan plays country-boy everyman in bemoaning the loss of his gal and satellite dish ("The House Feels So Empty"), then switches to sly and twangy ("Bubba Dan") or Kevin Fowler-style whimsy ("Buzz Kill") with such ease it's not hard to imagine Doug Sahm wanting to sit in. *Downtime* isn't the slick, polished package it could have been, and more's the better. When he croons "Love is my business" in 1970s soul style with country fiddle overlaid on "L-O-V-E," Tyrone Vaughan throws down his individual brand on a family name that deserves a younger generation "to stand up tall when the Lone Star flag is raised."

★★★★

— Margaret Moser

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4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26					

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NEW Of the WEIRD

by Chuck Shepherd



British manufacturer BCB International is flourishing, buoyed by sales of its Kevlar underwear, at \$65 a pair, to U.S. military personnel in Afghanistan and Iraq. However, soldiers and Marines must buy them directly; the “Bomb Boxers” are not supplied by the Pentagon, even though nearly 10% of battlefield explosive-device injuries result in sometimes-catastrophic genital and rectal damage. According to an October report in Talking Points Memo, the Pentagon’s currently issued protection is inferior to BCB’s but is less expensive. Although the Pentagon fully funds post-injury prostheses and colostomies, it could purchase about 7,700 Bomb Boxers for the price of a single Tomahawk missile.

LEAD STORY

At press time, Melinda Arnold, 34, was waiting to hear whether her mother would be accepted as an organ donor for her daughter – with the organ being the mom’s womb. Arnold (a nurse from Melbourne, Australia) was born without one (though with healthy ovaries and eggs), and if the transplant by Swedish surgeon Mats Brännström of the University of Gothenburg is successful and Arnold later conceives, her baby will be nurtured in the very same uterus in which Arnold herself was nurtured. Womb transplants have been performed in rats and, with limited success, from a deceased human donor.

GOVERNMENT IN ACTION

In what a cement company executive said is “one of those bureaucratic things that doesn’t make any sense,” the city of Detroit recently built wheelchair ramps at 13 intersections along Grandy Street, despite knowing that those ramps are either not connected to sidewalks or are connected to seldom-used, badly crumbling sidewalks. The ramps were required by a 2006 lawsuit settlement in which Detroit pledged to build ramps on any street that gets re-paved, as Grandy was. (No one in city government thought, apparently, to attempt a trade of these 13 intersections for paving 13 more-widely used ones in the city.)

A *Chicago Tribune*/WGN-TV investigation revealed in September and October the astonishing result that Illinois laws passed in 1997 and 2007 at the behest of organized labor have given at least three former union leaders lifetime government pensions as if they had been city or state employees, totaling an estimated drain on public budgets of about \$7 million. Two teachers’ union officials were allowed to teach exactly one day to qualify, and an engineers’ union official was hired for exactly one day, with the remainder of the service of the three having been on the payroll of the respective unions. A September *Tribune* report estimated that perhaps 20 other union officials might have been eligible under similar provisions.

GREAT ART!

It was haute couture meeting haute cuisine at the Museum for Communication in Berlin in November as prominent German chef Roland Trettl introduced his fashions (displayed on live models) made from food, including a tunic of octopus, a miniskirt of seaweed, a trouser suit made with lean bacon, a scarf of squid ink pasta, and a hat woven from lettuce. The museum director (presumably without irony) said the items were “provocative” and “raise[d] questions.”

Veteran New York City performance artist Marni Kotak, 36, gave birth to her first child, Ajax, on Oct. 25 – and that was her “art,” as the birth took place at the Microscope Gallery in Brooklyn, N.Y., after Kotak had moved into the space two weeks earlier to interact with visitors. Previously, Kotak had “re-enacted,” as her “art,” both her own birth and the loss of her virginity in the back seat of a car. A *New York Times* report suggested that Kotak may not be the most extreme performer in her family. Her artist-husband, Jason Martin, makes videos in which “he dresses as a wolf or dog and conducts séance-like rituals intended to contact the half-animal, half-human creatures that visited him in dreams as a child.”

POLICE REPORT

Cutting-Edge Policing: Officials in Prince George’s County, Md., reported that crime had fallen as much as 23% during the first nine months of 2011 – the result, they said, of holding meetings with 67 of the most likely recidivist offenders in five neighborhoods and sweet-talking them. The 67 were offered help in applying for various government and volunteer programs but were told they would be watched more closely by patrols.

Milestone: Joseph Wilson, 50, was chased by police and arrested in Port St. Lucie, Fla., in October and charged with shoplifting from a Bealls department store. It was his 100th arrest – although prosecutors are batting only 0.354 against him (35-for-99). Wilson’s get-away was delayed when he jumped into the passenger seat of an idling SUV and ordered the driver to “take off!” but the driver did not.

Points for Style: 1) Police in Corpus Christi, Texas, looked to the public for help in October to find the man who, according to surveillance video of a city agency building, stole three surveillance cameras (not the recording units, just the cameras) by lassoing them from their perches near the ceiling. 2) Theresa Mejia, held in the Burlington, Wash., police station on kidnapping charges, climbed through a ceiling vent in a dramatic escape attempt, traversing the entire length of the building before officers knew where she was. However, that put her directly over the police chief’s office, and she crashed through to the floor.

THE ARISTOCRATS!

1) Owen Kato, 23, was arrested following a police report in Port Charlotte, Fla., of a man grossing out customers by standing beside the entrance to a McDonald’s for about 10 minutes, popping his pimples with his fingers. 2) A man unnamed in a news story was charged on July 24 with resisting arrest (for trespassing) by failing to put his hands behind his back. According to the Destin, Fla., police report, the man explained, “I can’t put my hands behind my back because I’m making a bowel movement [in my pants].” According to the report, that was true.

Visit Chuck Shepherd daily at
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LISTINGS TABLE OF CONTENTS

- p.20
Civics 101
- p.43
Meal Times
- p.61
Theatre
- p.62
Comedy
Visual Arts
- p.64
Out of Town
Litera
Community
- p.65
Sports
Kids
Gay Place
- p.66
Film
- p.74
Music

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MUSIC:
Wayne "The Train" Hancock
Continental Club

FILM:
Master Pancake
Celebrates Hanksgiving
Alamo Drafthouse at the Ritz, 7 & 10pm

COMMUNITY:
Hargrave Arcade
1185½ Hargrave, 9pm-3am

MUSIC:
Immersion II [The Cube]
Salvage Vanguard Theater, 8pm

FILM:
A Very Green & Lynch Christmas
Alamo Drafthouse at the Ritz, 7pm

FILM:
The Palm Beach Story
Alamo Drafthouse Lamar, 7pm

FILM:
Sheer Madness
Hideout Theatre, 7:30pm

COMMUNITY:
Movember Gala
The HighBall, 8pm-2am

THURSDAY
24

SPORTS: **ThunderCloud Subs Turkey Trot** Long Center, 9:30am
GAY PLACE: **Thanksgiving Meals** Oilcan Harry's & 'Bout Time, 2pm
MUSIC: **The Peterson Brothers** Continental Club Gallery

FRIDAY
25

FILM: **The Sound of Music Sing-Along** Long Center, 1:30 & 7pm
COMMUNITY: **Return of the Rhizome Benefit** 29th Street Ballroom, 6pm-2am
MUSIC: **BettySoo** Threadgill's Old No. 1
MUSIC: **The Band of Heathens** Momo's

SATURDAY
26

FILM: **Freaky Friday** Alamo Drafthouse Lamar, 11am
MEAL TIMES: **Artisan Fair & Feast** Fall Creek Vineyards, 11am-5pm
COMEDY: **Doug Benson** Cap City Comedy Club, 4:20pm
FILM: **Blade Runner** Blue Starlite Mini Urban Drive-In II, 8pm
MUSIC: **Sons of Fathers** Scoot Inn
MUSIC: **Scott H. Biram** Mohawk

SUNDAY
27

MUSIC: **Bells of Joy** Threadgill's World Headquarters, 11am
KIDS: **Monster Families Improv** Hideout Theatre, 2pm
FILM: **Seconds** Alamo Drafthouse at the Ritz, 7pm
GAY PLACE: **Vintage Vivant** Swan Dive
FILM: **Inni** Alamo Drafthouse at the Ritz, 10pm

MONDAY
28

FILM: **White Christmas** Paramount Theatre, 7pm
FILM: **Pee-wee's Big Adventure** Butterfly Bar at the Vortex, 8pm

TUESDAY
29

COMMUNITY: **Mueller Tower Lighting** Berkman Drive & Tom Miller Street, 6pm
MUSIC: **Uneath, Chimaira, Skeletonwitch** Emo's East
SPORTS: **UT Basketball** Frank Erwin Center, 7pm
MUSIC: **Michael Martin Murphey** Paramount Theatre
FILM: **Heathers** Alamo Drafthouse at the Ritz, 7:30pm

WEDNESDAY
30

OUT OF TOWN: **Sights & Sounds of Christmas** San Marcos Plaza Park, 5-11pm
GAY PLACE: **Mail Art With Dandy** Bernadette's, 7-10pm
MUSIC: **Border Music: David Hidalgo & Marc Ribot** Bass Concert Hall
MUSIC: **Tom Russell** Cactus Cafe
FILM: **The Working Girls** Alamo Drafthouse at the Ritz, 9:45pm

THURSDAY
1

SPORTS: **UT Swimming/Diving** Texas Swimming Center
GAY PLACE: **World AIDS Day** For the City Center, 8:30am-6pm
FILM: **The Falls** Aviary Lounge, 7pm
FILM: **Die Hard** Alamo Drafthouse at the Ritz, 7pm
MEAL TIMES: **Whisky Festival** Opal Divine's Penn Field, 7pm
THEATRE: **A Christmas Carol** performed by Bernadette Nason City Theatre, 8pm
MUSIC: **Crooked Fingers** Mohawk

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THEATRE

OPENING

AMERICAN BEAR: A PLAY ABOUT HOME Theatre en Bloc presents Larry Mitchell's new drama about two brothers struggling to find themselves in the wake of their parents' untimely death. Nov. 25-Dec. 17. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 6pm. No show: Dec. 11. The Hideout Theatre, 617 Congress, 522-4083. \$15. www.theatreinbloc.org.

THE SANTALAND DIARIES It's David Sedaris' real-life story of his tour of duty at Macy's as Crumpet the elf, starring Martin Burke as Crumpet. Directed by Dave Steakley and beautifully enhanced by chanteuse Meredith McCall. Nov. 25-Dec. 4: Fri.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2:30pm. Dec. 7-Jan. 8: Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2:30pm. Zach Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541 x1. \$40-45. www.zachtheatre.org.

AUSTIN MIME THEATRE DEBUT PERFORMANCE Solo, duet, and ensemble pieces from the repertoire of Artistic Director Michael Lee. Don't expect whiteface and invisible-wall-touching; this company's beyond such hokum. This silence? Is golden. Sat., Nov. 26, 8pm. Galaxy Dance Studios, 1700 S. Lamar #338, 636-5914. \$10-25. www.michaellleemime.com.

LOOK BACK IN ANGER Just when we need it: John Osborne's classic about a group of twentysomething roommates in 1950s London. Fierce, real, and sizzling with self-righteous slackers of the time. Directed by Tyler King for Out of Context Productions. Mon.-Wed., Nov. 28-Dec. 14, 7:30pm. The Off Center, 2211-A Hidaigo, 476-7833. \$10-25. www.ocplimited.com.

THE TRANSITION OF DOODLE PEQUEÑO UT's Department of Theatre & Dance presents this "play for all ages" bringing staged life to universal themes of identity, friendship, and acceptance. Nov. 30-Dec. 3. Wed.-Sat., 7pm; Sun., 2pm. Oscar G. Brockett Theatre, Winship Drama Building, 23rd & San Jacinto, 471-1444. \$10. www.texasperformingarts.org.

THE EARLIER THAN LATE SHOW This variety show from Tom Slanker features a NORML lawyer, a fashion show by Charm School Vintage, music by Seth Sherman (accompanied by the Sugarfoot Hustlers dance gang), and video sketch comedy, hey! Wed., Nov. 30, 8pm. ND at 501 Studios, 501 N. I-35, 485-3001. www.ndvenue.com.

GOD OF CARNAGE Yasmina Reza's Tony-winning comedy about a play date between two boys that goes hysterically awry. (Parents behaving badly? Oh my, yes. *Somebody looks like they need a little time out.*) Starring Lauren Lane, Thomas Ward, Eugene Lee, and Angela Rawna; directed by Matt Lenz. Nov. 30-Jan. 8. Tue.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2:30pm. Zach Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541 x1. \$25-60. www.zachtheatre.org.

LA PASTORELA This contemporary musical comedy based on a yuletide play from American Indian and Latino communities, traditionally performed since the late 16th century is presented by the Austin Latino Theater Alliance under the direction of Alex Pedemonte. Dec. 1-17. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Mexican American Cultural Center, 600 River. \$15 (\$10, students, seniors). www.lapastorela.org.

HOUSEBREAKING Poison Apple Initiative presents Jakob Holder's drama in which one disillusioned desk jockey invites a homeless man into his home and alters both of their lives. Directed by Bastion Carboni. Thu.-Sat., Dec. 1-17, 8pm. Location provided with ticket purchase. \$12-20 (pay what you can, Thursdays). www.poisonappleinitiative.com.

MEN OF TORTUGA Check out Jason Wells' dark comedy in which a group of powerful men formulate plans to assassinate a member of the opposition. (Cannonballs? Or missiles?) These good ol' boys behaving very badly get downright savage at the end, as directed by Andrea Summers for Street Corner Arts. Thu.-Sat., Dec. 1-17, 8pm. Hyde Park Theatre, 511 W. 43rd, 479-PLAY. \$15 (pay what you wish, Thursdays). www.hydeparktheatre.com.

BERNADETTE NASON: A CHRISTMAS CAROL This one-woman-show version of the Dickens classic, brought to you by City Theatre, will send shivers of goodness down your spine while it warms the cockles of your solstice heart. Recommended. Dec. 1-18. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. City Theatre, 3823-D Airport, 524-2870. \$15-20. www.citytheatreAustin.org.

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS It's an Austin Cabaret Theatre homage to the classy TV specials of yesteryear, with a plethora of local stars gracing the stylish tune-and-croon stage. Thu.-Fri., Dec. 1-2, 7:30pm. 8611 N. MoPac. 786-6121. \$39. www.austincabaret.org.

CLOSING

A TUNA CHRISTMAS All those quirky characters from the third smallest town in Texas come to life again this holiday season, with every one of them, male and female, young and old, performed by Joe Sears and Jaston Williams with perfect timing and crowd-pleasing panache. Nov. 25-27. Fri.-Sat., 2 & 8pm; Sun., 2 & 7:30pm. Paramount Theatre, 713 Congress, 472-5470. \$28-56. www.austintheatre.org.

BIG LOVE Charles Mee's uproarious and heartbreaking comedy about 50 runaway brides seeking refuge in a villa on the Italian coast is based on Aeschylus' classic *The Suppliants*. The *Chronicle's* own Robert Faires directs a cast of fierce talents in this big stage version from Shrewd Productions. See review, p.38. Through Nov. 27. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. Long Center for the Performing Arts, 701 W. Riverside, 457-5100. \$20-25 (\$15, students). www.thelongcenter.org.

ONGOING

THE LION IN WINTER Austin Playhouse at Mueller presents this classic James Goldman drama about King Henry II of England and Eleanor of Aquitaine. Starring Huck Huckaby and Babs George, directed by Don Toner. Through Dec. 18. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. 1800½ Simond, 476-0084. www.austinplayhouse.com.

WELL Lisa Kron's new comedy explores the dynamics of health, family, and community with the story of a mother's ability to heal a changing neighborhood despite her inability to heal herself. Directed by Norman Blumensaat for Different Stages. Through Dec. 3. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 7pm. No show: Nov. 24. Extra show: Wed., Nov. 30, 8pm. Through Dec. 3. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282. \$15-30. www.vortexrep.org.



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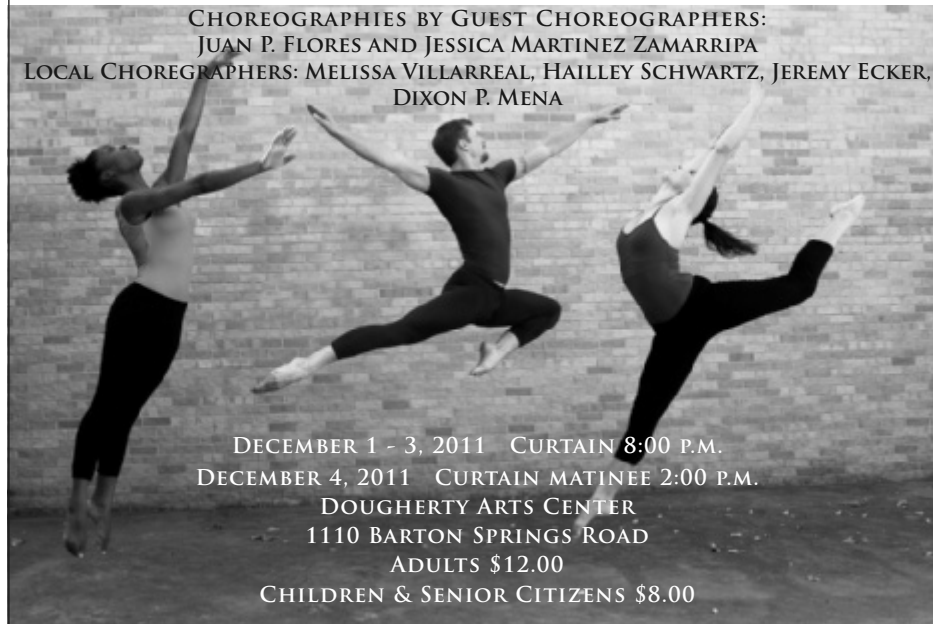


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Michael Joplin of Available Cupholders and the Knuckleball Now unleashes his mixmaster magic with this new CD of tunes and rhymes like something scratched out of Potterverse vinyl. Releases it with a vodka-fueled dance party shaking the house after his live turntabling's set the fucking roof on fire. We reckon this one's worth escaping from Azkaban for.

Sat., Nov. 26, 9pm. Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd. \$5.

AUDITIONS

ROMEO AND JULIET City Theatre's auditioning all roles for this one. Bring a headshot, résumé, and one-minute monologue. Stage combat and fencing experience a plus. Nov. 26-27. Sat., 6-10pm; Sun., 12:30-3:30pm. City Theatre, 3823-D Airport, 524-2870. www.citytheatreAustin.org.

THEATRE CALL BOARD

FRONTERAFEST 2012 IS HIRING staff and production team members, including a festival coordinator, box office personnel, house managers, board operators, stage managers, and assistant stage managers. All staff and crew will receive a small stipend. Send résumé and letter of interest to Hyde Park Theatre; ATTN: FronteraFest; 511 W. 43rd St.; Austin, TX 78751.

THE DARK MONDAY FAIR: A THEATRE CARNIVAL EXTRAVAGANZA Here's a fundraiser soiree for Paper Moon Repertory and Cambiare Productions, replete with an inflatable boxing ring, three-legged races, tug-of-war, pie throwing, fortune telling, a steampunk photobooth, raffles for prizes, silent auctions, robot caricatures, and performances from some of Austin's favorite actors. Live music by Both Feet. Mon., Nov. 28, 6:30-11pm. Blue Theatre, 916 Springdale, 524-3761. \$5. www.papermoonrep.com.

COMEDY

IN THE CLUBS

CAP CITY COMEDY CLUB 8120 Research #100, 467-2333. www.capcitycomedy.com.

Scott Kennedy Comedy Central lists this Lubbock native and festival favorite as one of the Top 100 Comics of All Time. Catch him here before he flies back to Iraq to entertain troops for the 45th time.

Sandstone comic Natalie Cox opens. Fri.-Sat., Nov. 25-26, 8 & 10:30pm. \$9-13.

Doug Benson: Doug Loves Movies Such an Austin-perfect event, innit? Join the man who brought *Super High Me* and *The Marijuana-Logues* into the world as he records his latest podcast. Sat.-Sun., Nov. 26-27, 4:20pm.

ESTHER'S POOL 525 E. Sixth, 320-0553. www.esthersfollies.com.

Esther's Follies The popular Esther's troupe brings a comedy show like none other in town, with topical sketches, song-and-dance numbers lambasting the high-and-mighty, and more, right there on Sixth Street. Esther's tracks the candidates in "GOP Superstar!" with Rick Perry hounded by presidential hopefuls Herman Cain and Mitt Romney. And there are **Ray Anderson's** nonpartisan spectacles of magic, too! Reservations recommended. Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10pm. \$20-27 (discounts available Thursdays & Fridays for seniors, military).

THE HIDEOUT THEATRE 617 Congress, 443-3688. www.hideouttheatre.com.

It's Hideoutrageous! Here's your one-stop emporium of laughter Downtown. **The Spectacle** features Parallelogramophonograph and the **Glamping Trip**. Fri., 10pm. \$12. **Charles Dickens Unleashed** Orphans! Top hats! Love and squalor and finery! Oh my, not the Maharajah! Sat., 8pm. \$12. **Maestro** It's improviser against improviser, a whole turkey-stuffed stageful of them battling for victory. Sat., 10pm. \$12. **The Weekender** Student Showcase and the Asides. Sun., 7pm. \$5.

VELVEETA ROOM 521 E. Sixth, 469-9116. www.thevelveetaroom.com.

Kick-Off-the-Holidays Show With Chris Keimling, Holly Lorka, Cameron Buckholtz, Lashonda Lester, and Sean Mooney making you go all "Bwa-ha-ha-ha!" You silly old comedy-loving reprobate, you. Sat., Nov. 26, 9:30 & 11:30pm. \$5.

VISUAL ARTS

EVENTS

AVAA: 12 BUY 12 It's the Austin Visual Arts Association's seventh annual holiday sale. Thu., Dec. 1, 6-8pm. Austin Art Space, 7739-Q Northcross. www.austinartspace.com.

AUSTIN ART UNDERGROUND LAUNCH PARTY Thu., Dec. 1, 8pm. 2008 S. Congress, 447-0969. \$5. www.austinartunderground.org.

OPENING

ACCESS GALLERY HOLIDAY ART SHOW Work by 20 Texas artists with disabilities. Nov. 28-Jan. 6. Reception: Sat., Dec. 3, 6-8pm. 3701 Guadalupe #103, 323-6626. www.vsatx.org.

BIRDHOUSE GALLERY: ADRIAN LANDON BROOKS The artist's "Totally Fucking Awesome" show might not be all that ... but, then again, considering what he does with paint, it just might. Reception: Sun., Nov. 27, 6-8pm. 1312 E. Cesar Chavez. www.birdhousegallery.com.

BRICK OVEN: UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL Go see many paintings by Sheri Mays and Leslie Pierce where the pasta's powerful good. 1608 W. 35th, 453-4330.

MAGGIE MILLER: HANDMADE PAPER COLLAGES 101 W. Sixth, 775-0458. www.realgalleryaustin.com.

CLOSING

ART ON 5TH: JENNY MEYER The artist's "Cool Pop" paintings conflate iconic cartoon characters into candy-colored chaos. Through Nov. 26. 1501 W. Fifth, 481-1111. www.jennymeyerart.com.

DAVIS GALLERY: MALOU FLATO Flato's "Edwards County" solo show fills the gallery with a profusion of overlapping, almost kaleidoscopic colors precisely and beautifully rendering Texas flora. Through Nov. 26. 837 W. 12th, 477-4929. www.davisgalleryaustin.com.

SLUGFEST: ARTEMIO RODRIGUEZ "Printing Matters" presents exquisite linocut prints by a master of the art, as featured in his newest book. Through Nov. 26. 1906 Miriam, 477-7204. www.slugfestprints.com.

WALLY WORKMAN GALLERY: JOYCE HOWELL Solo show of warm color abstractions. Through Nov. 26. 1202 W. Sixth, 472-7428. www.wallyworkmangallery.com.

ONGOING

ARTAMICI FINE ART GALLERY features artists from Argentina, Mexico, Chile, and Peru. 78 San Marcos St., 457-0171. www.pablotaboadastudio.com.

AUSTIN ART CONNECTIONS: ART THAT TELLS A STORY New work by seven Texas artists: Good new work, to be sure, and recommended. See website for details. 786-8721. www.austinartconnections.com.

AUSTIN ART GARAGE Local, diverse, and eminently shoppable. 2200-J S. Lamar, 351-5934. www.austinartgarage.com.

AUSTIN DETAILS ART + PHOTO: ELEMENTS Group show exploring color, space, light, and design. Through Dec. 106 E. Eighth, 391-0999. www.austindetailsart.com.

B. HOLLYMAN GALLERY: ANIMALIA Henry Horenstein's series of intimate and intriguing portraits of land and sea creatures. Reception: Sat., Nov. 19, 6-8pm. Exhibition: Through Jan. 31. 1202-A W. Sixth, 825-6866. www.bhollymangallery.com.

★ **BLANTON MUSEUM OF ART: EL ANATSUI** The renowned artist's "When I Last Wrote to You about Africa" spans four decades and includes about 60

Flashdance, But Flashier: 30 More Dances in 60 Minutes



Kathy Dunn Hamrick Dance Company presents the return of this popular anthology show, featuring new works of whimsical choreography and impeccable performance, now with even more technology, color, and music than the first time round.

Dec. 1-3. Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 & 8pm. Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd., 474-7886. \$17 (\$12; students, seniors). www.kdhdance.com.



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New work by Adrian Landon Brooks, now at Birdhouse Gallery.

works drawn from public and private collections internationally. Recommended. *Through Jan. 22.* MLK & Congress, 471-7324. www.blantonmuseum.org.

CHAMPION GALLERY: IDLE Abstract or representational? Form and color merge "not to create allusions to a tangible place ... but to ones that are partly invented by virtue of recalled experiences" in Jonathan Faber's new show. *Through Dec. 22.* 800 Brazos, 354-1035. www.championcontemporary.com.

D BERMAN GALLERY: LANDSCAPES Damn it, David Berman. You know we're gonna drive all the way out to Wimberley to see this one, because new works by Katie Maratta and Randy Twaddle are worth seeing no matter what. *Through Dec. 3.* 111 Old Kyle Road, Wimberley.

DOMY BOOKS: MONSTER SHOW 6 *Through Dec. 8.* 913 E. Cesar Chavez, 476-3669. www.domystore.com.

FAB GALLERY: TAYLOR WINN'S LARGE WORKS The artist uses gallons of repurposed acrylic, oil, Venetian plaster, and aluminum paint to create his oversized abstracts. *Through Dec. 16.* 23rd & Trinity. www.finearts.utexas.edu/aah/galleries.

FINE AUSTIN LIVING: UNMASKING Masks by Peg Runnels. *Through Jan. 15.* 4238 Bee Caves Rd.

GALLERY SHOAL CREEK: MARC BURCKHARDT AND GUSTAVO TORRES Cast bronze and paint on canvas meet in an exhibition of work by these two acclaimed masters. Recommended. *Through Dec. 3.* 2905 San Gabriel, 454-6671.

GRAYDUCK GALLERY: WAPATUI Fifteen artists, One great show! K.C. Collins, Cheryl Finrock, Karl Frey, Emily E. Galusha, Satch Grimley, DC Ice, Laura Jennings, Megan Kimmer, Suchitra Mattai, and more! *Through Dec. 18.* 608-C W. Monroe, 826-5334. www.grayduckgallery.com.

HARRY RANSOM CENTER: BANNED, BURNED, SEIZED, AND CENSORED This is what they had been trying to keep away from you, children, for well-meaning but ultimately pathetic, fear-based reasons. Witness, pay attention, set the world on fire. *Through Jan. 22.* 300 W. 21st, 471-8944. www.hrc.utexas.edu.



poem of the issue

snoring elephant itching to wake up
dreams of waterfall tickling its skull
while diving under
again to fetch the pearl of wisdom
dressed in dreamy sequins
glittery and vintage when things had
style as well as symbolism
looking outward into the world
a flower itching to open

— David Jewell

LA PEÑA: MINDSCAPES New photographs and paintings by Rama Tiru of Austin: *East of I-35* fame. 227 Congress. 477-6007. www.ramatiru.com.

LAGUNA GLORIA: BUSTER GRAYBILL The artist's *Progeny of Tush Hog*, which includes sculptures, photographs, and video, ranges from the venue's stately interiors to its landscaped grounds. See "AMOA-Arthouse," p.32, for more. *Through Feb. 19.* 3809 W. 35th, 458-8191. www.amoa.org.

LORA REYNOLDS GALLERY: BRADNEY EVANS The artist's "Still" comprises recent works on paper and a video, on display in the gallery's Project Room. *Trompe-l'oeil* so good as to make you go "WTF?" *Through Dec. 3.* 360 Nueces #50, 215-4965. www.lorareynolds.com.

LYTLE PRESSLEY CONTEMPORARY: ROI JAMES Witness new paintings by this master of figures and shadows. *Through Dec. 10.* 1214 W. Sixth, 917-6369. www.lytlepressley.com.

PALOMA BEAUTY: CAUTIOUSLY FERAL Group show of Texas-based artists Adrienne Butler, Erin Dooner, Laura Thoms, Brad Hodgson, and others. *Through Dec. 8.* 4600 Mueller #1005. www.palomabeauty.com.

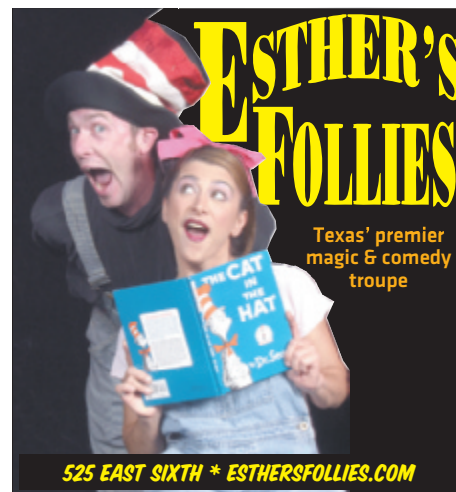
STUDIO 10: AUGUSTO BROCCA New work by the Peruvian sculptor and painter. *Through Dec. 19.* 1011 West Lynn. 236-1333. www.studiotenarts.com.

STUDIO L GALLERY New works by Rita Marie Ross, Jacob Colburn, Daryl G. Colburn, Dorthy Crummer, and more. 2309 Thornton. 577-3479. www.darylcolburn.com.

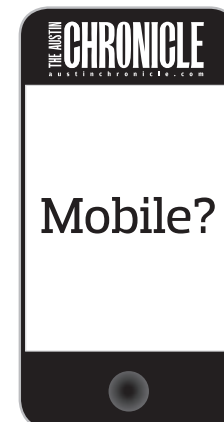
THE GALLERY AT MUSEO: BRINGING BACK TRADITION Oil paintings by Eve Larson. *Through Jan. 22.* 11266 Taylor Draper.

THE OLD BAKERY & EMPORIUM: TRIO Fresh art by Sherry Fields, Jeffy Leedy, Tina Weitz. 1006 Congress.

UT VISUAL ARTS CENTER UT's Art Faculty Exhibition Organized by Jade Walker and Kate Green. *Through Dec. 31.* The Architect's Garden is a new site-specific exhibition by New York-based artist **Mika Tajima**, the VAC's fall artist-in-residence in the Vaulted Gallery. *Through Dec. 17.* Visual Arts Center, 23rd & Trinity. 471-1108. www.utvac.org.



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PRESENTS

December

21-22 Guy Forsyth & Carolyn Wonderland:
Holidays by Candlelight
28 The Christmas Music of Mannheim
Steamroller by Chip Davis

January

7 Kathy Griffin: Live in Concert
10-15 Robert Dubac's
Free Range Thinking

February

7 Les Ballets Trockadero
de Monte Carlo
11 The Midtown Men
21 An Evening with Deepak Chopra:
Healing, Transformation &
Higher Consciousness
25 Tao: The Art of the Drum

March

4 Clifford the Big Red Dog
10-11 The New Mel Brooks Musical –
Young Frankenstein
14 For the Record:
Tarantino in Concert

April

4 Straight No Chaser
17 Laughter and Reflection with
Carol Burnett

June

6 An Evening with Wilson Phillips
8 The Intergalactic Nemesis:
Book Two – Robot Planet Rising
20-24 One-Man Lord of the
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CREATIVE OPPORTUNITIES

T-SHIRT DESIGN CONTEST FOR THE AUSTIN HOSTEL See website for details! Deadline: Jan. 5. 444-2294. www.hiaustin.org.

CALL FOR ARTWORK: PEOPLE'S GALLERY 2012 The city of Austin seeks submission of artwork from Austin artists for the 2012 "People's Gallery" exhibit. Deadline: Dec. 5. 974-9313. www.austincreates.com.

LITERA

READINGS, SIGNINGS, AND PERFORMANCES

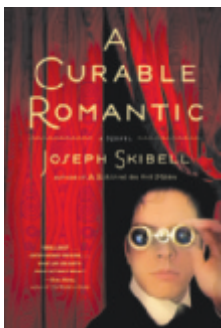
BOOKPEOPLE READINGS Former *Daily Show* producer and Emmy winner **David Javerbaum**: *The Last Testament: A Memoir (by God)*. Mon., Nov. 28, 7pm. **Angie Dudley (aka Bakerella)**: *Cake Pops and Cake Pops Kit*. Thu., Dec. 1, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

★ **NAOMI SHIHAB NYE AND JOSEPH SKIBELL**

The Michener Center's visiting writers for fall 2011 read from their newest works. Brilliant folks. Highly recommended. Wed., Nov. 30, 7:30pm. Avaya Auditorium, ACES Building, 23rd & San Jacinto.

CELEBRATE THE FALL

2011 RIO REVIEW Austin Community College's literary journal featuring poems, stories, scripts, and artwork by students. Wed., Nov. 30, 7pm. Austin Community College Gallery Theatre, 1212 Rio Grande, 223-3226. www.austinctcc.edu.



Day Trips

BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

The **Central Texas coast** around Port Aransas attracts a wide variety of feathered residents. Fall and winter are a great time to see wildlife in its natural habitat. Shallow coastal ponds and tidal pools are seaside cafes for more than 300 varieties of birds.

Whooping cranes are among the most famous of the seasonal visitors. The largest and rarest North American bird, the whoopers spend summers in Canada and winters along the Central Texas coast. From a population of only 21 birds in the 1940s, biologists hope that last year's flock of 283 birds will have grown to break the 300 mark for the first time in nearly a century. Boat and van tours to see the birds depart Port Aransas and Rockport November through March. Port Aransas hosts the annual Whooping Crane Festival during the last week of February.

Another seasonal visitor to the Port Aransas wetlands is the Roseate Spoonbill (pictured). With its spatula-shaped bill, spindly legs, and bright pink-and-white feathers, the birds look both tropical and prehistoric. Their colorful feathers once popular for women's hats, the birds have rebounded to thousands from a low of 30 to 40 nesting pairs after being added to the list of protected species. Roseate Spoonbills spend summers on the Texas coast before migrating to Central and South America.

POETRY ON THE PLAZA: WINTER POEMS Wed., Nov. 30, noon. Harry Ransom Center, 300 W. 21st, 471-8944. www.hrc.utexas.edu.

WRITING/BOOK GROUPS

BOOK CLUBS? Where bookish folk gather – in a coffee shop, say, or a bookstore or a library – to discuss what they've been reading? Yes, we have a few of those listed online each week.

BOOKPEOPLE CLUBS *The Voyage Out: One Hundred Bottles* by Ena Lucia Portela. Sun., Nov. 27, 5pm. **New & Noteworthy:** *Jeff in Venice, Death in Varanasi* by Geoff Dyer. Mon., Nov. 28, 7pm. **Hard Words:** *Berlin Noir* by Philip Kerr. Wed., Nov. 30, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

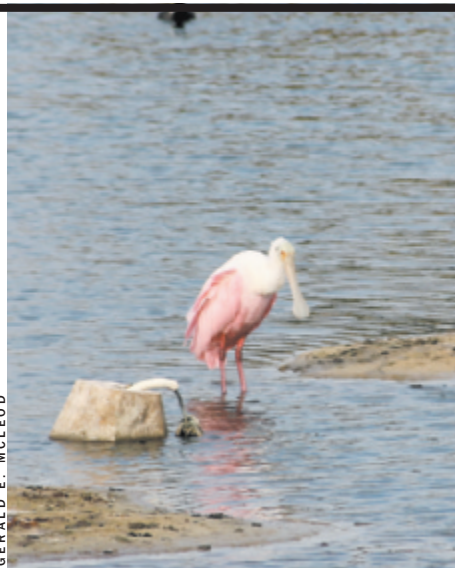
BOOKWOMAN BOOKGROUP *Theodora: Actress, Empress, Whore* by Stella Duffy. Tue., Nov. 29, 7pm. BookWoman, 5501 N. Lamar Ste. 105-A, 472-2785. www.ebookwoman.com.

OPEN MICS

OPEN MICS *Austin Poetry Slam* Tuesdays, 8pm. 29th Street Ballroom, 2906 Fruth, 480-9562. **Multimedia Poetry** Wednesdays, 6:30pm. Thrive, 909 W. Mary, 447-9743. **Fair Bean** Fridays, 5-7:30pm. *Fair Bean Coffee*, 2210-I S. First, 444-BEAN. **Full English Tea Room** Thom hosts. Saturdays, 6-9pm. 2000 Southern Oaks. 240-2748. **Spoken & Heard** Sundays, 7-10pm. Kick Butt Coffee, 5775 Airport #725, 454-5425. **More listed online!**

MISCELLANEOUS

RIC UP YER EARS she lets it go, washes her hands of it. a single stitch would hold the world in place & pulled it falls in flames; old elephants standing all fours on striped beach balls. daddy is a clown miming scraped knees & band aids. imagine god as a daddy not a father or a Nazi. it is not the actual existence of things we know as disease but what terrifies/thrills – the suggestion of a last transgression – seepage – of the other – a contamination – a metaphor – poets unwashing before every line. Namaste. Unwash.



GERALD E. MCLEOD

OUT OF TOWN

SIGHTS AND SOUNDS OF CHRISTMAS Enjoy an ice-skating rink, life-sized snow globe, carnival, arts & crafts, face painting, a gigantic food court, and holiday music in the park. Wed.-Sat., Nov. 3-Dec. 3, 5-11pm. Plaza Park, San Marcos, 512/393-5930. www.sights-n-sounds.org.

HOMESTEAD CRAFT AND CHILDREN'S FAIR

Join in the fun at the working farm and heirloom craft settlement where all sorts of activities will be happening with a special focus on children's activities including milking a cow, make-your-own projects, watching a barn raising, craft demonstrations, food, music, and shopping for the entire family. Fri.-Sun., Nov. 25-27. Homestead at Brazos de Dios, Waco, 254/754-9600. www.homesteadheritage.com.

COMMUNITY

★ **RETURN OF THE RHIZOME BENEFIT** Austin's headquarters for sustainability and solidarity is back, and they're letting you know with live music from Las Krudas, Magnetar, Huerta Culture, Wino Vino, and their ilk to keep the funds rising. Fri., Nov. 25, 6pm-2am. 29th Street Ballroom, 2906 Fruth, 480-9562. *Donations appreciated.* on.fb.me/vD3EVt.

GREEN LIVING FAIR McKinney Falls State Park got some new solar panels to power the ... uh ... electric squirrels. Various enviro-friendly booths and vendors will be on hand to help you celebrate. Sat., Nov. 26, 10am-3pm. McKinney Falls State Park, 5808 McKinney Falls Pkwy., 243-1643. \$5. www.tpwd.state.tx.us/publications/parkguide/rgn_hc_013.phtml.

CHILDREN GIVING TO CHILDREN PARADE Don't get distracted by Santa or his entourage of floats, marching bands, and inflatables and forget to bring a toy to donate to Operation Blue Santa. Get a good spot along the parade route down Congress from the Capitol to Cesar Chavez. Sat., Nov. 26, 11am. 888/HEY-CHUY x25. www.chuysparade.com.

RENEGADE CRAFT FAIR HOLIDAY MARKET It truly is a crazy time when crafts can be described as renegade. So avoid the malls, and support any or many of the 150 top-notch indie artisans. Sat.-Sun., Nov. 26-27, 11am-6pm. Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd., 312/496-3215. Free. www.renegadecraft.com/holiday-austin.

EMILYANN THEATRE TRAIL OF LIGHTS Soak in the holiday spirit with 8 acres of illuminated decorations. Hot chocolate and live entertainment round out the festivities. Sun.-Thu., 6-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 6-10pm. The EmilyAnn Theatre, 1101 FM 2325, Wimberley, 512/847-6969. Free. www.emilyann.org.

HARGRAVE ARCADE The monthly arcade/film/music extravaganza goes DayGlo this month with screenings of *Xanadu* and *Gleaming the Cube*. Expect all the regular "Best of Austin"-approved philanthro-punk shenanigans as well, including a house full of retro video games, drinks, food, live music, and more. Every penny collected goes to Meals on Wheels and More. Sat., Nov. 26, 8pm-2am. 1185½ Hargrave. \$10. www.hargravearcade.org.

TINPLATE TRACKERS TRAIN CLUB Come watch the choo-choos and inspire the next generation to keep this historic hobby alive and well. You might even be allowed to sit behind the controls if you're kind enough to the tip jar. Saturdays, noon-5pm and Sundays, 1-5pm through Jan. 15. 117 Lavaca (next to Ill Forks). *Donations appreciated.* www.trainweb.org/ttat.

COMMUNITY GARDEN LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Two evening sessions are all you need to learn the process of getting a community garden up and running in your neighborhood. The experts show you the ropes from organizing to fundraising. Sign up online to attend. Tue., Nov. 29, 6-8pm. Baha'i Faith Center, 2215 E.M. Franklin, 236-0074 x 105. Free. www.sustainablefoodcenter.org/events.

MUELLER TOWER LIGHTING The annual lighting of the festive sign atop the old airport control tower rings in the season with a performance from the Reagan High School drum line and other family friendly activities. Tue., Nov. 29, 6pm. Berkman Drive & Tom Miller Street. Free. www.muelleraustin.com.

★ **PAPER CUTS** Our very own music series brings the Tiny Adventurers to the stage completely free of charge. Don't say we never gave you nothin'. Tue., Nov. 29, 7pm. The Palm Door, 401 Sabine, 391-1994. Free.

THE EARLIER THAN LATE SHOW is a variety show filmed in front of a live studio audience (aka you). Expect guests, music, and dance performances. Wed., Nov. 30, 7-11pm. ND at 501 Studios, 501 N. I-35, 939-8075. \$10. etlsaustin@gmail.com.

CONGRESS COLLECTIVE POP-UP SHOP This group of artists and artisans show and sell its wares at this temporary store front. Come on opening day for music, food, and drinks. Thu.-Sat., Dec. 1-3, 10am-7pm. 910 Congress. www.congresscollective.com.

CONVERSATIONS WITH ... SPEAKER SERIES

Hosted by Concordia University, this installment looks into the art of influencing community opinion. Thu., Dec. 1, 11:30am. Concordia University Auditorium, 11400 Concordia University Dr., Bldg. A. Free. www.concordia.edu/speakerseries.

ART WITH HEART HOLIDAY PARTY Local art, a silent auction, and more holiday partying with the money going to art workshops for violence survivors and those at risk. Thu., Dec. 1, 7-9pm. 29th Street Ballroom, 2906 Fruth, 480-9562. \$25 (\$20, advance). www.empowerart.org.

MOVEMBER WRAP PARTY It's time to show off those killer 'staches you've been growing to help raise money and awareness for prostate cancer. Don't forget to dress in a way that accentuates your facial hair. *Magnum, P.I.* shorts? Check. Thu., Dec. 1, 8pm-2am. The HighBall, 1142 S. Lamar, 543-1168. \$10. www.movember.com.

UT Men's Basketball

BY MARK FAGAN



COURTESY OF UT

On Monday morning, for the second consecutive week, **J'Covan Brown** (pictured) was selected as the Big 12 Conference Player of the Week. On Monday night in East Rutherford, N.J., with just more than 9 minutes remaining, he committed a costly technical foul (his fifth personal foul) forcing his ejection from the game. Brown's absence on the court opened the door for North Carolina State to take control of the game, picking up the 77-74 win over the Horns. Brown (who is averaging 26.3 points, 7.5 assists, and 4.8 boards through four games) will certainly learn from this mistake and hopefully take out his frustration on UT's opponents and not the refs this weekend at the Erwin Center. Check www.texassports.com for UT's Black Friday men's and women's basketball holiday packs.

Vs. Sam Houston State: Sat., Nov. 26, 7pm. Vs. North Texas: Tue., Nov. 29, 7pm. Frank Erwin Center, 1701 Red River. \$8-40.

1,062nd in a series. Collect them all. Day Trips, Vol. 2, a book of "Day Trips," is available for \$8.95, plus \$3.05 for shipping, handling, and tax. Mail to: Day Trips, PO Box 33284, South Austin, TX 78704.

SPORTS

THE HOME TEAMS

★ **TEXAS STARS** Give thanks for our own Central Texas hockey team this holiday weekend. Vs. Houston: Sat., Nov. 26, 7pm. Cedar Park Center, 2100 Avenue of the Stars, Cedar Park, 512/600-5000. \$10-70. www.texasstarshockey.com.

★ **UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS Women's Volleyball** Vs. Oklahoma: Sat., Nov. 26, 4pm. Gregory Gym, 2101 Speedway. \$4-7. **Men's and Women's Swimming/Diving** Texas Invitational: Thu. Dec. 1-3, all day. Texas Swimming Center, 1900 E. Campus Dr. www.texassports.com.



HUSTON-TILLOTSON UNIVERSITY Men's Basketball Vs. LSU-Shreveport: Mon., Nov. 28, 7:30pm. **Women's Basketball** Vs. LSU-Shreveport: Mon., Nov. 28, 5:30pm. htu.edu/athletics.

ST. EDWARD'S UNIVERSITY Men's Basketball Vs. Incarnate Word: Sat., Nov. 26, 4pm. **Women's Basketball** Vs. Arkansas Tech: Sat., Nov. 26, 1:30pm. Vs. Huston-Tillotson: Wed., Nov. 29, 6pm. www.stedwards.edu/athletics.

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY Men's Basketball Vs. East Texas Baptist: Sat., Nov. 26, 3pm. Vs. Centenary: Mon., Nov. 28, 7:30pm. **Women's Basketball** Vs. East Texas Baptist: Sat., Nov. 26, 1pm. Vs. Centenary: Mon., Nov. 28, 5:30pm. Concordia Fieldhouse, 11400 Concordia University Dr. athletics.concordia.edu.

TEXAS STATE Men's Basketball Vs. Northwestern Oklahoma State: Mon., Nov. 27, 4pm. **Women's Basketball** Vs. North Texas: Fri., Nov. 25, 7pm. www.txstatebobcats.com.

RECREATION & FITNESS

HILL COUNTRY OUTDOORS Learn about Austin's most active outdoors and social club – more than 40 events featured each month. Mon., Nov. 28, 6:30pm. Opal Divine's Penn Field, 3601-K S. Congress, 383-1191. Free. www.hillcountryoutdoors.com.

RUNS, WALKS, & RIDES

★ **THUNDERCLOUD SUBS TURKEY TROT** Thu., Nov. 24, 9:30am. \$20, untimed 5-mile/1-mile walk; \$28, timed 5-mile; \$8, Stepping Stone School Kids K. Long Center for the Performing Arts, 701 W. Riverside, 524-2953. www.thundercloud.com/index.php/trot-home.

CRITICAL MASS Bicyclists have been “subverting the paradigm” in Austin since October '93. Let's keep it civil, everybody. Held on the last Friday of each month. Fri., Oct. 28, 5pm. Riders meet at the UT West Mall (Guadalupe between 22nd & 23rd). www.critical-mass.info/austin.html.

BLACK FRIDAY FUN RUN Fri., Nov. 25, 11am. American Gypsy Tattoo, 2805 Hwy. 281 N., Marble Falls. \$20. www.americangypsytattoo.com.

KIDS

KID'S CHARACTER DANCE Get into character and learn to move like them. Fridays, 5-6pm. Butler Dance Education Center, 501 W. Third, 476-9051. \$75.

www.balletaustin.org/community/courseofferings.php.

KIDGITS STORY HOUR Stories (duh) and activities courtesy of your local mall. Beware the impulse buy. Fri., Nov. 25, 10am. Lakeline Mall, 11200 Lakeline Mall Dr., Cedar Park, 512/257-8500. Free. www.simon.com/kidgits.

WEEKLY STORY TIME FOR KIDS Stories, crafts, and even a free book just for coming out. Saturdays, 1pm. Mitchie's Gallery, 7801 N. Lamar Ste. B-148, 323-6901. Free. www.mitchiesnewsletter.com.

A VERY FAIRY CHRISTMAS CAROL Characters from kids' theatre productions past – including Penelope the Party-Pooping Fairy, Peter Pan, and others – come together to help Tiny Tim learn about sharing during the holiday season. Perfect for kids between the ages of 4 and 10. Nov. 19-Dec. 18, Saturdays, 10am; Sundays, 2pm. Scottish Rite Theatre, 207 W. 18th, 472-5436. \$10 (\$8, children). www.srct.org.

MONSTER FAMILIES IMPROV These monsters don't believe in humans, even the ones in the audience. The young audience members will have to help, so be prepared to offer suggestions. Sundays, 2pm. The Hideout Theatre, 617 Congress, 971-3311. \$7. www.flyingtheatremachine.com.



GIVING

Hey, thanks! It's time, turkeys. We'll keep this brief, cuz so much is going on (and, you know, short attention spans are in ... until you get bored with them). 1) **World AIDS Day** is blown' up Thursday, Dec. 1, with a ton of stuff going on. 2) **Mail Art With Dandy** returns to Wednesdays at Bernadette's. 3) Some gay bars still serve **free Thanksgiving meals**. 4) **Dandy Unicorn** will still love you even after you break his spirit and steal the last piece of punkin pie. 5) The **Rhizome** resurrection is buoyed (boi'd?) by lots o' queerness. Occupy hearts. Occupy pie. Happy Thanksgiving, gaybirds!

ON OUR GAYDAR

ESTHER'S FOLLIES: BARAKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW It's the last week of this tarty, cross-dressing send-up. *Through November: Thursdays, 8pm; Fridays & Saturdays, 8 & 10pm.* Esther's Pool, 525 E. Sixth, 320-0553. \$20-27 (discounts available).

FREE THANKSGIVING BY ROSE Home for the holidays: a meal with family. Thank you, Rose! Thu., Nov. 24, 2pm. Oilcan Harry's, 211 W. Fourth, 320-8823.

THANKSGIVING POTLUCK BT provides the turkey, and folks bring the rest. Dinner with the fam! Thu., Nov. 24, 2pm. 'Bout Time, 9601 N. I-35, 832-5339.

THE RETURN OF THE RHIZOME COLLECTIVE From a humble li'l rhizome bursts new life, and this night signals a rebirth for Austin's beloved collective. Come learn all about it and celebrate with Las Krudas, Magnetar, Huerta Culture, Wino Vino, Son Armado, Souliotes, Gente Boa, and Dame Moneda. That's quite a burst. Fri., Nov. 25, 6pm-2am. 29th Street Ballroom, 2906 Fruth, 203-1339. Donation.

SCOTT KENNEDY The Gay Comedy Jam co-founder asked and told more than 40 times while entertaining our troops in Iraq. Come see his schtick right here in Texas. Fri.-Sat., Nov. 25-26. Cap City Comedy Club, 8120 Research #100, 467-2333. www.comicscott.com.

LATIN NIGHT You know what that means: hot *mamis* and time to brush up on your “¡Por favor!”s. Fri., Nov. 25, 9pm. Lipstick24, 606 E. Seventh, 474-2950.

1983 Cold. New. Electro. Synth. Your roots, minimal babies. *Last Fridays, 10pm. Cheer Up Charlie's, 1104 E. Sixth, 431-2133.* Free. brookesterrymail@gmail.com.

THE BATHHOUSE: STUFFING Sticky house amid the rolls of bears at this club of grrrr. *Last Fridays, 10pm. Iron Bear, 121 W. Eighth.* Free. www.facebook.com/bathhouseaustin.

GLOW: A BLACKLIGHT AFFAIR You, a 'mo, and every ho you know. Glow, yo. *Saturdays, Deco Lounge, 408 Congress.* Free. www.facebook.com/#!/events/257548360960304.

VINTAGE VIVANT: FORBIDDEN VICES Ummm, yeah. For many of us, this is not really a guise. But you know the drill: Dress to excess for a discount on the cover. Featuring Sick + Prof. Reese Gray, and the most delectable Frannie Brown. Sun., Nov. 27, 9pm. Swan Dive, 615 Red River, 994-2819. \$10, vintage attire; \$13, street clothes. www.swandiveaustin.com.

BROOKLYN JAMES The Austin-based singer-songwriter and mystery writer reads from her latest, *Vigilare*. Mon., Nov. 28, 7pm. BookWoman, 5501 N. Lamar Ste. 105-A, 472-2785. Free. www.brooklyn-james.com.

QUARTER-LIFE & QUEER This drop-in discussion group is a great way to casually stroll in and meet a new crew (all genders/expressions, ages 18-30). Mon., Nov. 28, 7-8:30pm. The Q, 3408 West, 420-8557. Free. www.qboyz.org.

HRC: TUESDAYS TOGETHER Meet the fine folks at HRC. Learn how you can affect national change from right here in Austin. Tue., Nov. 29, 6:30pm. The Driskill Hotel, 604 Brazos, 300-5539.

CELLULOSID HANDBAG: 'HEATHERS' Angel dust. Switchblades. Sexually perverse photography exhibits involving tennis rackets. When Rebecca Havemeyer is the head of the clique, everybody wins. Two nights, cuz you know this beeyotch is gonna fill up. Tue.-Wed., Nov. 29-30, 8pm. Alamo Drafthouse at the Ritz, 320 E. Sixth, 476-1320. \$12. rebeccahavemeyer@yahoo.com.

MAIL ART WITH DANDY Gay Place presents a craft night to 1) make and send cards to incarcerated queers and folks living with HIV/AIDS, 2) get crafty with new pals, and 3) stick it to the man. *Wednesdays, 7-10pm. Bernadette's, 2039 Airport.* www.bernadettesbar.com, www.facebook.com/dandyunicorn.

WORLD AIDS DAY: PROVIDER EDUCATION DAY This gathering – nay, this citywide collaborative event – brings together Central Texas' top HIV/AIDS care providers, strategists, feelers, and thinkers and is free and open to the public. (Plenty of seating for general public; registration for CEUs is full but get on the waiting list if interested.) Thu., Dec. 1, 8:30am-6pm. For the City Center, 500 E. St. Johns, 961-5587. www.austinhiv.com.

Soccer Watch

BY NICK BARBARO

The **Los Angeles Galaxy** won the 2011 **MLS Cup** Sunday 1-0 over the **Houston Dynamo** in what may have been the final game of the **David Beckham** era in MLS. The winner came in the 72nd minute, from Beckham playing a ball to **Robbie Keane**, who set **Landon Donovan** free to slot it home. And while “every-one contributed” and “it's a team game” and all that, it's certainly fitting that the winner came from those three individuals, each of whom is paid more than the entire Dynamo starting lineup. Combined, the three Galaxy superstars earned **\$12,217,243** in guaranteed compensation this year, according to Players' Union figures; if you add up all the salaries of all the starters for all the MLS champions since they've been compiling these figures, that wouldn't be half of what the Galaxy paid these three this year. So is this the MLS of the future? Has the “designated player” brought an end to the league's ethos of cooperative ownership and unified labor negotiations? Perhaps, but if money were all it took to succeed, the freespending but dysfunctional **New York Red Bulls** would've been in the final instead of the Dynamo.

On the other end of the glitz scale, the **Portland Timbers**, who sold out every home game in their first MLS season, have already sold out of season tickets for 2012, capping sales at 14,750, and leaving more than 5,000 fans on a waiting list. Buoyed by Portland and fellow rookie Vancouver, MLS is boasting **record attendance** for 2011, with per-game averages surpassing the **NHL** and **NBA**.

Locally, alas, all our teams are done for the season. **NCAA playoffs** continue through mid-December. The Division III Men's and Women's Championships will be down the road at Blossom Soccer Stadium in San Antonio, Friday-Saturday, Dec. 2-3.

Favorite recent headline: “**Jesus: Premier League not the best in the world.**” – ESPNsoccernet

ALL-DAY WORLD AIDS DAY Local photo maestro Jo Ann Santangelo, plus more than 30 community-group booths, AIDS Memorial Quilt sections, and more will be on view for your pondering. Come plug in to this local commemoration of all who have passed, suffered, survived, and thrived. Thu., Dec. 1, 8:30am-6pm. For the City Center, 500 E. St. Johns, 961-5587.

INTERFAITH SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE & HOPE Let your love ring out on the AIDS Bell banner and gather in reflection for World AIDS Day. Thu., Dec. 1, 7-9pm. St. David's Episcopal Church, 301 E. Eighth, 610-3500. Free.

AUSTIN FACES AIDS AIDS Services of Austin presents the full multimedia blowout of Jo Ann Santangelo's new portrait show. See next week's GP for details on the Fri., Dec. 2, reception. *Through December. Tuesdays-Saturdays, 10am-4pm.* Falcon 5, 1000 E. Fifth. Free. www.joannasantangelo.com.

MEG BARNHOUSE Meg reads and sings from her repertoire, including her latest, *Broken Buddha*. Thu., Dec. 1, 7pm. BookWoman, 5501 N. Lamar Ste. 105-A, 472-2785. Free. www.megbarnhouse.com.

HO-RIZON

BEARRACUDA NEW YEAR'S EVE Ooooh, call it a New Bear's Eve! Details a-comin'. Watch this space! Sat., Dec. 31, 8pm. ND at 501 Studios, 501 N. I-35, 485-3011. \$15. www.bearracuda.com.

BLUE SANTA PARTY Help Dino and the crew pull together some treats and trinkets for the wee ones. Sat., Dec. 3, 8pm. Lipstick24, 606 E. Seventh, 474-2950.

SWING IT FOR HOLIDAY SWING This annual Project Transitions holiday get-down still needs volunteers and auction items. Get in touch ASAP! *Holiday Swing: Sat., Dec. 3. 454-8646.* info@projecttransitions.org, www.projecttransitions.org.

Send gay bits to gayplace@austinchronicle.com. See the full array of Gay Place listings at austinchronicle.com/gay.



Hugo

D: Martin Scorsese; with Asa Butterfield, Ben Kingsley, Sacha Baron Cohen, Chloë Grace Moretz, Helen McCrory, Emily Mortimer, Christopher Lee, Ray Winstone, Michael Stuhlbarg, Jude Law, Richard Griffiths. (PG, 126 min.)

Martin Scorsese steps outside his usual comfort zone of gangsters, crime, and American pop

culture to create one of his most atypical movies – an effects-heavy children’s film set in France – and winds up creating one of the most splendid and personal films of his career. A visual and technological stunner, *Hugo* manages to wrap an emotionally involving story about an orphaned boy in 1930s Paris around a passionate appeal for the practice of film preservation, a cause close to the director’s heart. In the process, Scorsese also schools other filmmakers and viewers in the use of 3-D as a potential enhancement to the art of storytelling rather than its contemporary bastardization as a requisite gewgaw.

Hugo (Butterfield) is a near-adolescent boy who lives alone within the inner depths of a Parisian train station amid the giant gears and mechanisms of the station’s numerous clocks, which he maintains and adjusts to run on time. Hugo was taught his mechanical skills by his father (Law), who dies before completing the repair of a sophisticated automaton he found abandoned in a museum. The boy continues to tinker with the automaton after he is relocated to the train station where his drunkard uncle (Winstone) maintains the clocks until he disappears, leaving Hugo again on his own. The boy nicks items of food from the station’s cafe and tools from the depot’s toy store. But right after the magnificent tracking shot that opens the film, Hugo is caught red-handed by the toy shop’s crusty owner, who is later revealed to be Georges Méliès (Kingsley), the forgotten inventor of special-effects filmmaking. This

now-bankrupt and bitter former magician lives with his wife, Jeanne (McCrory), and their adopted daughter, Isabelle (Moretz), a girl about Hugo’s age who befriends her fellow orphan. Quite different from each other, she introduces him to her world of erudition, and Hugo introduces her to his steampunk lifestyle and the world of movies, which has been forbidden to her.

Hugo is perhaps not a story for the youngest of children as there are no talking animals or catchy melodies. But for older kids, adolescents, and grown-ups, *Hugo* may be the equivalent of young-adult literature that nourishes while it entertains. Robert

RECOMMENDED



Richardson’s cinematography is unquestionably the most impressive work seen this year, and there should be no debate about awarding him the Oscar

in this category. Richardson conspires with Scorsese to swoop and track the camera, and adds dimensionality with puffs of steam and inventive re-creation of things like the fabled audience reaction to the Lumière brothers’ first film attraction, “Train Leaving the Station.” The duo even uses the tall, skinny body of Sacha Baron Cohen’s station inspector for maximum – and hilarious – 3-D effects. Scorsese’s entire crew, particularly Sandy Powell’s costumes and Dante Ferretti’s production design, functions at the top of its game in *Hugo*. Although a nip and a tuck here and there might improve *Hugo*’s overall pace, there is no denying that this love letter to the movies is something to cherish. Alamo Lake Creek, Barton Creek Square, Hill Country Galleria, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

BY MARJORIE BAUMGARTEN

NEW REVIEWS

★ ARTHUR CHRISTMAS

D: Sarah Smith; with the voices of James McAvoy, Hugh Laurie, Bill Nighy, Jim Broadbent, Imelda Staunton, Ashley Jensen, Laura Linney, Michael Palin, Robbie Coltrane. (PG, 100 min.)

The worst thing I can say about this sweet little slice of holiday cheer is that it is preceded by evil incarnate: a Justin Bieber music video of the pint-sized castrato’s soul-sucking rendition of “Santa Claus Is Coming to Town.” Happily, once Bieber scuttles offscreen and the Aardman Animation titles come up, you’re in good, competent, and refreshingly funny hands. *Arthur Christmas* is an inspired take on the hoary clichés of the Santasploitation genre. I’ve no doubt that somewhere there is a law on the books that requires one or more forays into Christmastime comedy chaos each and every year. Generally speaking, I’d like to find that particular book, burn it, burn Tim Allen, and then salt the ashes and plow the ground under. Every now and then, however, a holiday film full of interesting characters, newly hatched North Pole story developments, and a genuine sense of fun arrives just in time to save me from a state of yuletide, um, humbuggery. This year, *Arthur Christmas* is that film.

This isn’t so much of a surprise, seeing as it comes from the same British animation studio that gave us the wonderfully eccentric and Wensleydale-loving *Wallace & Gromit* films and the much-loved *Chicken Run*, among many others. This time, they’ve left their trademark Plasticine stop-motion designs behind in favor of CGI and 3-D techniques, both of which turn out to work splendidly in the service of a very Aardman take on the notion of what it means to be Santa (voiced here by Broadbent) and the perils (and perhaps inevitability) of taking one’s profession for granted, no matter how special, magical, or outrageously awesome it may be.

It’s just another Christmas, however, for this soon-to-retire Santa Claus, a stressful 24 hours spent delivering the worldwide goodies via his gigantic, crimson spaceship/sleigh. Thousands of spritely, nimble elves descend from the mother ship, ninjalike and with a definite aura of *Mission: Impossible* meets Special

Air Service-styled derring-do. Arthur Christmas (McAvoy), Santa’s well-meaning if occasionally hapless son, stays at the North Pole while his brother, the ramrod-straight, perfectionistic Steve, oversees the entire operation. It goes perfectly, except for one tiny, possibly inconsequential detail: A little girl named Gwen in Croyden, England, somehow gets passed over, accidentally forgotten. When she wakes up on Christmas morning, she’ll find ... *nothing*. Brother Steve notes that it’s a one-in-two-billion mistake and is nothing to worry about; Santa Claus, exhausted, is inclined to agree. And so it falls to Arthur, accompanied by toothless, aged Grandsanta (Nighy), to right this (clearly!) terrible wrong, and in the process, prove himself to be less meek than mighty resourceful. Longtime Aardman associate (and producer of BBC cult favorite *The League of Gentlemen*) Sarah Smith pulls the various threads of this wholly original – well, as original as can be reasonably expected given the thousands of cinematic iterations Christmastime has provoked over the years – together into a very coherent, visually stunning, oftentimes laugh-out-loud hilarious holiday film. If you can get past the Bieber, this is smart, funny stuff. The under-10 audience I saw it with were entranced, and, remarkably enough by itself, so were their parents. Huzzah, Aardman!

★★★★

– Marc Savlov

Alamo Lake Creek, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, Southpark Meadows, Cinemark Stone Hill Town Center, Flix Brewhouse, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

THE DESCENDANTS

D: Alexander Payne; with George Clooney, Shailene Woodley, Nick Krause, Amara Miller, Judy Greer, Beau Bridges, Robert Forster, Matthew Lillard, Mary Birdsong, Rob Huebel. (R, 115 min.)

Did anyone ever look less Hawaiian than the dapper and poised George Clooney? It serves his *Descendants* character, Matt King, well: Those constitutionally ill-fitting, loud prints and pleated shorts and boat shoes embody how out of touch Matt has become as a husband and father. A work-obsessed attorney and land baron, he’s pushed out at the film’s beginning from his self-described role of the “backup parent” when a speedboat accident puts his wife, Liz, in a coma.



Matt is surrounded by volatile women. Ten-year-old Scottie (Miller) has taken to texting cruel barbs at a classmate, and she's also fond of flipping the bird with an exquisitely matched scowl. Seventeen-year-old Alex (Woodley) has been shipped off to boarding school to deal with drug issues; when Scotty and Matt go to retrieve her, she's rowdily drunk and full of four-letter words about her mom. Of Liz – whom we see only comatose and, briefly, at the film's beginning, beaming in close-up during a waterskiing race – we're told she liked motorcycles and hard drinking. As Matt wonders in voiceover: "What is it that makes the women in my life want to destroy themselves?"

Voiceover opens the film and pops up occasionally, sometimes to describe the depths of the family's dysfunction. What we're told and what we're shown by director and co-writer Alexander Payne (*Sideways*, *About Schmidt*) don't always square: The girls seem more precociously rebellious than tyrannical – OK, so Alex has a habit of calling people twats – and Matt, who is publicly roasted for his failures as a family man, is never seen as anything less than a competent and loving caretaker.

That voiceover is meant to invite us in, to bring us closer to Matt by sharing his innermost thoughts. Instead, it pulls us out of the movie before it's even begun. (Who is he addressing? The audience? Now his wife? And to what purpose, save conveying large swaths of exposition?) Payne and co-writers Nat Faxon and Jim Rash (working from Kauai Hart Hemmings' source novel) have produced no end of dialogue that is clever and thoughtful and peppered with arresting one-liners. Problem is, arresting is the enemy of rhythmic, and the film can't catch a flow with all that cleverness waving for attention.

It isn't quite peacocking – more like a teacher's pet-like compulsion for acknowledgment – and it bleeds into Payne's stylistic choices, too, as when he directs Clooney toward bug-eyed overacting during a bit of surveillance behind a hedge or when his actors so obviously are hitting a mark in order to facilitate a certain framing or slow zoom. Even the scene transitions – dissolves, a side wipe – regularly jerk the viewer out of that delicate headspace required to buy into the truthfulness of a film. *The Descendants* is beautifully shot (by Phedon Papamichael) and compellingly performed, especially by its young stars, and it has moments of startling tenderness. If only it didn't feel phony to its bones.

★★★ – Kimberley Jones
Alamo Lamar, Arbor, Violet Crown

THE MUPPETS

D: James Bobin; with Amy Adams, Jason Segel, Chris Cooper, Rashida Jones, Zach Galifianakis, Ken Jeong, Sarah Silverman, Feist, Whoopi Goldberg, Selena Gomez. (PG, 98 min.)

It is with immense pleasure that I can report that Disney's Muppet reboot movie is an absolute delight. It hews very closely to the original item, with all the original Muppet characters on board, along with one new one: the small, orange Walter (voiced by Peter Linz) who doesn't, in fact, realize that he's a Muppet. He believes he's the shorter, fuzzier, younger brother of Jason Segel's human Gary. Through events too circuitous to mention here, Walter, Gary, and Gary's best gal Mary (Adams, redefining the word "perky") journey "by map" to the old Muppet Theater, now a cobwebbed, empty shadow of its former self. While there, Walter surreptitiously overhears villainous Tex Richman (Cooper) reveal his plans to tear down the historical theatre for the oil that apparently lies beneath it. What to do? Why, track down the original *Muppet Show* members, of course, and put on the Great Muppet Telethon to come up with the \$10 million needed to pry the theatre from Richman's grasp. Yes, it's the hoariest of "Let's put on a show!" clichés – Mickey Rooney even makes an appearance – but for once, it works just as it should. Walter, Gary, and a less than over-the-moon Mary (it's supposed to be the couple's 10th anniversary) corral the great Muppet diaspora – Fozzie's fronting a faux Muppet nostalgia act in Reno, Miss Piggy's editing French *Vogue* in Paris, etc. – and it's on with the show. *The Muppets* was co-written by star Segel and fellow Judd Apatow pal Nicholas Stoller, and clearly, both have remained very much in love with the artfully absurd tone of the series they grew up with. True Muppet maniacs (including, *ahem*, punk rock supergroup Me First & the Gimme Gimmes and, *ahem* again, this reviewer) are advised to bring a hankie; the big musical showstopper will be as overwhelmingly familiar and emotionally front-loaded as the Gonzo cannon fodder gag, and I'm positive I'm not the only one whose eyes got misty from the memories it engendered. This leads me to several very important questions: Are the Muppets now merely much-loved memories trotted out for one more go-round before being retired to the broom closet of long-forgotten variety shows? Are they now best typified by box-seat blowhards Statler and Waldorf instead of the eternally optimistic and inspirational Kermit? Can a franchise that kowtowed to no one (and never spoke down to its audience

no matter how old they may have been), yet hasn't had a financially substantial theatrical hit since 1992's *The Muppet Christmas Carol* be successfully rebooted for a new, young audience weened on Pixar and *Pirates of the Caribbean*? In short, are the Muppets passé? To those questions (and pretty much all others), I can only answer with a resoundingly affirmative "Wocka, wocka, wocka!" The Muppets may have been gone, but they're certainly not forgotten, and it's an absolute joy to have them back. After all, to paraphrase Walt Kelly: We have met the Muppets, and they are us.

★★★★ – Marc Savlov
Alamo Lake Creek, Alamo Lamar, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, Southpark Meadows, Cinemark Stone Hill Town Center, Highland, Gateway, iPic, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

MY WEEK WITH MARILYN

D: Simon Curtis; with Michelle Williams, Eddie Redmayne, Kenneth Branagh, Dominic Cooper, Julia Ormond, Emma Watson, Judi Dench, Zoë Wanamaker, Dougray Scott, Toby Jones, Derek Jacobi. (R, 101 min.)

Colin Clark was 23 years old when the most famous movie star in the world, Marilyn Monroe, came to England to co-star with acting legend Sir Laurence Olivier in *The Prince and the Showgirl*, which Olivier was also directing. Young and well-connected, Clark wangled himself a job as the film's third assistant director (otherwise known as an uncredited gofer). When the film shoot turned difficult (and what production starring Monroe didn't?), Clark, if we are to believe his account, became Monroe's confidant and partner in flirtation. Clark later turned his time on the set into material for a couple of books: the first, a set of diaries, and the second, a memoir about his relationship with Monroe, which forms the basis of *My Week With Marilyn*.

The truth of what actually occurred between Monroe and Clark is immaterial. There are only two real reasons to see this movie. The first is the spooky-good impersonation of Monroe by Michelle Williams. Although she never mimics Monroe's face 100% accurately, she has the rest of her body language down pat: the wiggle in her walk, the breathy voice, the twinkle in her eyes, and her ability to turn the sex-goddess persona on and off at will. Williams' performance is a sight to behold. No slouch either is Kenneth Branagh in his depiction of Olivier. His speech and mannerisms closely approximate the real thing.

The second reason to see it is for its encapsulation of a running controversy among actors. The classically trained Olivier was greatly perturbed by Monroe's reliance on method acting, which required her to understand her character's motivations and find a certain truthfulness in the action and dialogue. A consummate professional, Olivier believed in showing up on time and delivering one's lines as written, honesty be damned. Then, of course, Monroe's legendary insecurities fed into this debate: Monroe required her acting coach Paula Strasberg (Wanamaker) to be at her side constantly, while Olivier regarded Strasberg as an extra impediment; Monroe's problems with pills, men, and self-doubt made her perennially late to the set, while the pros resented her behavior and stewed in their own juices.

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IMMORTALS 3D (R) DBox Motion Seating Fri. & Sat. 12:00 2:25 4:50 7:20 9:45 11:59
DBox Motion Seating Sun. - Thu. 12:00 2:25 4:50 7:20 9:45

THE MUPPETS (PG) Fri. & Sat. 11:30 2:00 4:30 7:05 9:30 11:55
Sun. - Thu. 11:30 2:00 4:30 7:05 9:30

ARTHUR CHRISTMAS 3D (PG) Fri. - Thu. 10:00 12:10 2:20 4:40 7:15 9:40 11:50

THE TWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN PART 1 (PG-13) Fri. & Sat. 10:00 10:30 11:00 12:30 1:00 1:45 3:45 4:00 4:30 6:45 7:00 7:30 9:30 10:00 10:15 11:55
Sun. - Thu. 10:00 10:30 11:00 12:30 1:00 1:45 3:45 4:00 4:30 6:45 7:00 7:30 9:30 10:00

J. EDGAR (R) Fri. - Thu. 10:10 1:00 4:10 7:15 10:10


TOWER HEIST (PG-13) Fri. & Sat. 10:15 12:25 2:45 5:05 7:25 9:45 11:55
Sun. - Thu. 10:15 12:25 2:45 5:05 7:25 9:45

A VERY HAROLD & KUMAR 3D CHRISTMAS (R) Fri. & Sat. 9:35 11:30
Sun. - Thu. 9:35

PUSS IN BOOTS 3D (PG) Fri. & Sat. 10:05 12:00 2:15 4:30 6:55 9:15 11:20
Sun. - Thu. 10:05 12:00 2:15 4:30 6:55 9:15

HAPPY FEET TWO 3D (PG) Fri. - Thu. 11:30 2:10 4:20 7:00

★ - Special Engagement: No Passes/Coupons
Tickets available online at GALAXYTHEATRES.com



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openings	ratings
Arthur Christmas (PG)	★★★★★ As perfect as a movie can be
The Descendants (R)	★★★★ Slightly flawed, but excellent nonetheless
Hugo (PG)	★★★ Has its good points, and its bad points
The Muppets (PG)	★★ Mediocre, but with one or two bright spots
My Week With Marilyn (R)	★ Poor, without any saving graces
	🍌 La bomba

SHOWTIMES

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE AT THE RITZ 320 E. Sixth,

476-1320. Showtimes at this venue are subject to frequent change. Please confirm daily by phone or website.

Call theatre for Nov. 24 showtimes:

Musie Monday: *Ad Lib Rhythms*: Loretta Lynn: Mon, 7:30pm
Action Pack: *Die Hard*: Thu (12/1), 7:00pm
Master Pancake: Hanksyng Celebration: Fri-Sat, 7:00, 10:00
Celuloid Handbag: *Heathers*: Tue-Wed, 7:30pm
Innn: Sun, 10:00pm; Mon, 10:50pm
Food and Film: *Lord of the Rings* Trilogy *Hobbit* Feast: Sun, 11:00am
My Week With Marilyn: Fri-Sat, 1:35, 2:30, 4:15, 5:10, 7:50, 10:30; Sun, 1:35, 4:15; Mon, 5:00, 10:00; Tue, 5:00, 10:10; Wed, 5:00, 7:00, 10:15; Thu (12/1), 4:50, 7:20, 10:00
Terror Tuesday: *Phantasm*: Tue, 9:40pm
Cinema Club: *Seconds*: Sun, 7:00pm
A Very Green & Lynch Christmas: Mon, 7:00pm
Weird Wednesday: *The Working Girls*: Wed, 9:45pm
Action Pack Ye-Z in Love Sing-Along: Thu (12/1), 10:15pm

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE LAKE CREEK 13729 Research,

219-5408. Showtimes at this venue are subject to frequent change. Please confirm daily by phone or website.

Arthur Christmas: Thu (11/24), 1:30, 7:00, 8:45, 9:45; Fri, 10:25am, 1:10, 4:25, 7:00, 9:35pm; Sat, 11:00am, 1:45, 4:45, 7:15, 9:50pm; Sun, 11:00am, 1:50, 4:30, 7:15, 9:50pm; Mon-Tue, 10:50am, 1:30, 4:25, 7:00, 9:35pm; Wed, 10:50am, 1:30, 5:10, 7:00, 9:35pm; Thu (12/1), 10:50am, 1:30, 4:05, 7:00, 9:35pm
***Arthur Christmas (3-D):** Thu (11/24), 10:00am, 6:10pm; Fri, 3:20pm; Sat, 3:55pm; Sun, 4:20pm; Mon-Wed, 4:50pm; Thu (12/1), 4:25pm
***Happy Feet Two (3-D):** Thu (11/24), 10:40am, 12:40, 4:10pm; Fri, 3:45pm; Sat, 10:15am, 4:25pm; Sun, 11:00am, 4:25, 9:15pm; Mon, 11:05am, 4:10, 10:20pm; Tue, 11:04am, 4:10, 10:25pm; Wed, 11:55am, 4:10, 10:10pm; Thu (12/1), 10:40am, 4:10, 9:10pm
***Happy Feet Two (3-D):** Thu (11/24), 3:25pm; Fri, 12:35pm; Sat, 12:50pm; Sun, 1:40pm; Mon-Wed, 2:10pm; Thu (12/1), 1:45pm
Hugo (3-D): Thu (11/24), 10:05am, 1:05, 4:10, 7:30, 10:30pm; Fri, 10:20am, 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:15pm; Sat, Sun, 10:05am, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00pm; Mon, 11:00am, 1:25, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30pm; Tue-Wed, 11:00am, 1:15, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30pm; Thu (12/1), 10:35am, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30pm
***J. Edgar:** Thu (11/24), 12:15, 3:30, 6:45, 9:55; Fri, 10:30am, 3:30, 6:45, 9:55pm; Sat, 10:45am, 6:45, 10:00pm; Sun, 10:30am, 3:30, 6:45, 9:55pm; Mon, 12:45, 4:00, 7:15, 10:25; Tue, 12:40, 7:15, 10:25; Wed-Thru (12/1), 12:15, 3:30, 6:45, 9:55
The Muppets: Thu (11/24), 10:20am, 1:05, 3:30, 6:05, 8:45, 11:25pm; Fri, 9:30am, 12:00, 1:00, 2:30, 5:00, 6:00, 7:30, 8:30, 10:00pm; Sat, 10:00am, 12:15, 1:05, 4:00, 5:00, 6:10, 7:45, 8:45, 10:15pm; Sun, 10:00am, 11:05, 12:30, 12:45, 3:30, 6:15pm; Mon, 10:45am, 11:10, 1:50, 4:25, 7:15, 7:50, 10:00pm; Tue, 10:45am, 11:00, 1:45, 4:25, 7:15, 7:45, 10:00pm; Wed, 10:45am, 10:55, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00pm; Thu (12/1), 10:45am, 10:55, 1:45, 4:25, 7:15, 10:00pm
Action Pack: *The Nightmare Before Christmas* Sing-Along: Sun, 7:00pm; Thu (12/1), 7:00pm
***Tower Heist:** Thu (11/24), 11:45am, 2:25, 5:05, 7:40, 10:10pm; Fri, 10:15am, 1:45, 7:15, 9:55pm; Sat, 10:20, 7:30, 10:10; Sun, 1:45, 7:15, 10:00pm; Mon, 1:40, 7:00, 9:45; Tue, 1:45, 7:00, 9:45; Wed, 2:30, 8:00, 10:45; Thu (12/1), 1:25, 6:55, 9:40
***The Twilight Saga: Breaking Down – Part 1:** Thu (11/24), 12:35, 3:50, 7:15, 10:25, 1:15; Fri, 10:55am, 1:45, 4:45, 7:45, 10:30pm; Sat, 10:45am, 1:40, 4:35, 7:30, 10:15pm; Sun, 10:45am, 1:35, 4:35, 7:30, 10:15pm; Mon-Thru (12/1), 11:00am, 1:55, 4:50, 7:45, 10:30pm
TV @ the Alamo: *The Walking Dead*: Sun, 9:00pm

ALAMO DRAFFHOUSE LAMAR 1120 S. Lamar, 707-8262.

Showtimes subject to frequent change. Please confirm daily by phone or website. Call theatre for Dec. 1 showtimes.

Action Pack: *The Big Lebowski* Quote-Along: Mon, 10:20pm
Master Pancake: Choose Your Own Master Pancake: Sun, 7:00pm
***The Descendants:** Thu (11/24), 11:00am, 12:45, 1:50, 4:05, 4:50, 6:50, 7:30, 9:45, 10:25pm; Fri-Sat, 11:15am, 12:15, 3:30, 5:00, 6:30, 7:50, 9:25, 10:05pm; Mon, 11:15am, 12:15, 3:30, 5:00, 6:30, 6:55, 10:05pm; Mon, 1:20, 2:15, 5:00, 6:45, 7:50, 9:40, 10:40; Tue, 10:40am, 12:30, 1:50, 3:35, 4:35, 7:35, 9:25, 10:25pm; Wed, 1:00, 2:15, 5:00, 6:45, 7:50, 9:40, 10:40
Kids' Club: *Freaky Friday*: Sat, 11:00am
***Melancholia:** Thu (11/24), 11:00am, 2:10, 7:45, 10:50pm; Fri-Sat, 1:30, 4:30, 7:35, 10:50; Sun, 1:30, 4:30, 7:45, 10:50; Mon, 4:35, 7:40, 10:45; Tue, 11:05am, 3:10, 7:50, 10:50pm; Wed, 1:30, 4:35, 7:40, 10:45
***The Muppets:** Thu (11/24), 10:40am, 11:20, 1:20, 3:45, 5:05, 8:15, 11:00pm; Fri, 10:45am, 1:25, 2:15, 4:10, 5:10, 7:10, 10:00pm; Sat, 10:40am, 1:25, 2:15, 4:10, 5:10, 7:10, 10:00pm; Sun, 10:45am, 1:25, 2:15, 4:10, 5:10, 7:10, 9:50pm; Mon, 1:00, 1:45, 3:45, 4:25, 7:10, 10:00; Tue, 11:00am, 12:45, 1:40, 4:20, 7:10, 10:00; Wed, 12:45, 1:40, 3:45, 4:25, 7:10, 10:00
AFS: *The Palm Beach Story*: Tue, 7:00pm
***The Skin I Live In*:** Thu (11/24), 5:10, 8:05, Fri-Sun, 11:30am, 2:20, 8:05, 11:05pm; Mon, 4:15, 7:25; Tue, 2:05, 6:35, 9:35; Wed, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30
***The Twilight Saga: Breaking Down – Part 1:** Thu (11/24), 11:50am, 1:55, 3:05, 6:30, 9:40pm; Fri, 10:40am, 12:40, 3:50, 6:55, 9:55pm; Sat, 10:40am, 1:20, 4:05, 7:00, 9:55pm; Sun, 10:40am, 12:40, 3:50, 7:35, 10:35pm; Mon, 1:35, 4:50, 8:00, 10:55; Tue, 12:15, 3:50, 4:55, 6:55, 9:50; Wed, 1:05, 4:00, 6:55, 9:50
TV @ the Alamo: *The Walking Dead*: Sun, 9:30pm

ALAMO DRAFFHOUSE VILLAGE 2700 W. Anderson,

459-7090. Tuesday matinee Baby Day shows (first show of the day) are intended for parents and their children younger than 6. Showtimes at this venue are subject to frequent change. Please confirm daily times by phone or website.

TV at the Alamo: *Glee*: Tue-Wed, 9:45pm
***Immortals:** Thu (11/24), 10:45am, 1:25, 5:00pm; Fri, 11:15am, 2:10, 5:05pm; Sat, 12:20, 3:15, 6:10; Sun, 11:15am, 2:10, 5:05pm; Mon, 5:05pm; Tue, 12:55, 3:50, 6:45; Wed, 4:00, 7:50; Thu (12/1), 3:30pm
***Immortals (3-D):** Thu (11/24), 8:00, 10:45; Fri, 8:00, 10:50; Sat, 9:05pm; Sun-Mon, 8:00, 10:45
***J. Edgar:** Thu (11/24), 1:35, 7:40, 10:50; Fri-Sat, 12:00, 6:30, 9:55; Sun, 12:00, 6:30, 9:45; Mon, 6:30, 9:45; Tue, 12:10, 6:45, 10:00; Wed, 4:25, 10:40; Thu (12/1), 6:30, 9:45
***Puss in Boots (3-D):** Thu (11/24), 11:00am, 1:25, 6:30pm; Fri, 10:55am, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00pm; Mon, 4:30, 7:00; Tue, 10:35am, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00pm; Wed, 4:15, 6:45; Thu (12/1), 4:30, 7:00
***Puss in Boots (3-D):** Thu (11/24), 3:55pm
***The Rocky Horror Picture Show*:** Sat, 11:55pm
***The Twilight Saga: Breaking Down – Part 1:** Thu (11/24), 10:50am, 12:15, 3:35, 4:20, 7:00, 8:55, 10:15pm; Fri-Sat, 11:00am, 1:25, 3:25, 4:25, 7:30, 9:35, 10:35pm; Sun, 11:00am, 1:25, 3:25, 4:25, 7:30, 9:30, 10:25pm; Mon, 3:25, 4:25, 7:30, 9:30, 10:25; Tue, 10:30am, 11:00, 1:25, 3:35, 4:25, 7:30, 9:30, 10:25pm; Wed, 4:25, 7:30, 9:15, 10:25; Thu (12/1), 3:25, 4:25, 7:30, 9:30, 10:25

Girlie Night: *When Harry Met Sally*: Wed, 7:00pm

ARBOR CINEMA @ GREAT HILLS 9828 Great Hills Trail

(at Jollyville), 231-9742. Discounts daily before 6pm.
The Descendants: 12:10, 12:50, 3:10, 3:40, 6:40, 7:10, 9:50, 10:20
NCM Fathom: *Esmerelda*: Wed, 6:30pm
Into the Abyss: Thu (11/24), 12:30, 3:30, 7:30, 10:05; Fri-Tue, 4:10, 10:25; Wed, 4:10pm; Thu (12/1), 4:10, 10:25
J. Edgar: Thu (11/24), 12:40, 3:50, 7:00, 10:10; Fri-Thu (12/1), 12:40, 3:50, 7:00, 10:05
Like Crazy: Thu (11/24), 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:50, 10:25; Fri-Thu (12/1), 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:50, 10:10
Martha Marcy May Marlene: Thu (11/24), 12:20, 3:20, 6:50, 9:55; Fri-Thu (12/1), 12:20, 6:50
My Week With Marilyn: Fri-Thu (12/1), 12:30, 3:30, 7:30, 10:00
***The Skin I Live In*:** Thu (11/24), 1:10, 4:10, 7:40, 10:30; Fri-Tue, 1:10, 7:40; Wed, 11:0pm; Thu (12/1), 1:10, 7:40
Take Shelter: Fri-Thu (12/1), 3:20, 9:55
The Way: 1:00, 4:00, 7:20, 10:15

BARTON CREEK SQUARE (AMC) Barton Creek Square

mall, MoPaac & Highway 360, 888/AMC-4FUN. Matinee discounts available before 6pm on weekdays and before 4pm Friday through Sunday and holidays. Call theatre for Nov. 27-Dec. 1 showtimes.
***Arthur Christmas (3-D):** Fri-Sat, 10:55am, 4:30, 9:50pm
***Arthur Christmas (digital):** Thu (11/24) Sat, 1:50, 7:15
***Happy Feet Two (3-D):** Thu (11/24), 11:10am, 4:20, 9:25pm; Fri-Sat, 11:10am, 4:20pm
***Happy Feet Two (3-D, IMAX):** Thu (11/24) Sat, 9:35am, 12:05, 2:40, 5:25, 8:00, 10:30pm
***Happy Feet Two (digital):** Thu (11/24), 1:45, 6:50; Fri-Sat, 1:40, 6:50
***Hugo (3-D):** Fri-Sun, 10:10am, 12:55, 3:45, 6:45, 9:40pm; Mon-Thu (12/1), 12:55, 3:45, 6:45, 9:40
***Hugo (digital):** Fri-Sat, 7:45pm
***Immortals (3-D):** Fri-Sat, 9:35am, 5:15, 7:50, 10:25pm
***Immortals (digital):** Fri-Sat, 12:00, 2:30
***In Time (closed captioned, closed captioned and descriptive video):** Thu (11/24) Sat, 10:15pm
***J. Edgar:** Thu (11/24) Sat, 10:15am, 1:15, 4:15, 7:25, 10:30pm
***Jack and Jill:** Thu (11/24) Sat, 10:45am, 1:25, 3:35, 5:55, 8:15, 10:35pm
***The Muppets (closed captioned, closed captioned and descriptive video):** Thu (11/24) Sun, 11:20am, 2:10, 5:00, 7:40pm
J. Edgar (digital): Fri-Sun, 1:10, 4:15, 7:15, 10:15
***Jack and Jill (digital):** Fri-Sun, 11:00am, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 9:45pm
The Muppets (digital): Thu (11/24) Sat, 9:50am, 12:40, 3:30, 6:30, 9:15pm
***Puss in Boots (digital):** Thu (11/24) Sat, 10:30am, 1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 10:40pm
***Tower Heist:** Thu (11/24) Sat, 11:45am, 2:20, 5:05, 7:35, 10:10pm
***The Twilight Saga: Breaking Down – Part 1:** Thu (11/24), 9:40am, 10:20, 1:00, 3:00, 4:00, 5:45, 7:00, 8:30, 10:00pm; Fri-Sat, 9:40am, 10:00, 12:20, 1:00, 3:00, 4:00, 5:45, 7:05, 8:30, 10:00, 11:10pm
***The Twilight Saga: Breaking Down – Part 1 (closed captioned, closed captioned and descriptive video):** Thu (11/24), 11:50am, 2:20, 4:50, 7:40, 10:10pm
***The Twilight Saga: Breaking Down – Part 1 (digital):** Thu (11/24), 9:40am, 10:00, 12:20, 1:00, 3:00, 4:00, 5:45, 7:00, 8:30, 10:00pm; Fri-Sat, 11:10am, 2:05, 5:00, 8:00, 10:40pm
***A Very Harold & Kumar 3D Christmas (3-D):** Fri-Sat, 9:25pm

CINEMARK CEDAR PARK 1335 E. Whitestone,

800/FANDANGO
Arthur Christmas (3-D): Fri-Thu (12/1), 12:10, 5:20, 10:30pm
Arthur Christmas (digital): Fri-Sun, 9:30am, 1:20, 2:50, 6:30, 8:00pm; Mon-Tue, 1:20, 2:50, 6:30, 8:00; Wed, 1:20, 2:50, 8:00; Thu (12/1), 1:20, 2:50, 6:30, 8:00
NCM Fathom: *Esmerelda*: Wed, 6:30pm
Happy Feet Two (3-D): Fri-Sun, 11:50am, 5:10, 7:50, 10:20pm; Mon-Thu (12/1), 5:10, 7:50, 10:20
Happy Feet Two (digital): Fri-Sun, 10:30am, 2:20, 3:50, 9:00pm; Mon-Tue, 2:20, 3:50, 9:00; Wed, 2:20, 3:50; Thu (12/1), 2:20, 3:50, 9:00
Immortals (3-D): Fri-Sun, 11:10am, 2:10, 4:50, 7:40, 10:15pm; Mon-Thu (12/1), 2:10, 4:50, 7:40, 10:15
J. Edgar (digital): Fri-Sun, 11:40am, 3:10, 6:20, 9:20pm; Mon-Thu (12/1), 3:10, 6:20, 9:20
Jack and Jill (digital): Fri-Sun, 11:20am, 2:00, 4:30, 7:10, 9:30pm; Mon-Thu (12/1), 2:00, 4:30, 7:10, 9:30
The Muppets (digital): Fri-Sun, 9:40am, 11:00, 12:30, 1:50, 3:20, 4:40, 6:10, 7:30, 8:50, 10:10pm; Mon-Thu (12/1), 12:30, 1:50, 3:20, 4:40, 6:10, 7:30, 8:50, 10:10
Puss in Boots (digital): Fri-Sun, 9:50am, 12:20, 2:40, 5:00, 7:20, 9:40pm; Mon-Thu (12/1), 12:20, 2:40, 5:00, 7:20, 9:40
Tower Heist (digital): Fri-Sun, 10:10am, 12:50, 3:30, 6:40, 9:10pm
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Down – Part 1 (digital): Fri-Sun, 10:00am, 11:30, 1:00, 2:30, 4:00, 5:30, 7:00, 8:30, 10:00pm; Mon-Thu (12/1), 1:00, 2:30, 4:00, 5:30, 7:00, 8:30, 10:00

CINEMARK HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA 14

12812 Hill Country Blvd., 800/FANDANGO. Call theatre for Nov. 24 showtimes.
Arthur Christmas (3-D): Fri-Thu (12/1), 12:20, 2:55, 5:30, 8:05, 10:30
Arthur Christmas (digital): Fri-Sun, 11:00am, 1:40, 4:20pm; Mon-Thu (12/1), 1:40, 4:20
NCM Fathom: *Esmerelda*: Wed, 6:30pm
Happy Feet Two (3-D): Fri-Thu (12/1), 12:50, 3:40, 6:20
Happy Feet Two (digital): Fri-Sun, 11:30am, 2:15, 5:00, 7:35, 10:15pm; Mon-Thu (12/1), 2:15, 5:00, 7:35, 10:15
Hugo (3-D): Fri-Thu (12/1), 12:45, 3:55, 7:05, 10:15
Hugo (digital): Fri-Sun, 11:30am, 9:45pm; Mon-Thu (12/1), 9:45pm
Immortals (3-D): Fri-Thu (12/1), 9:00pm
Immortals (digital): Fri, 11:05am, 1:55, 4:45, 7:30, 10:10pm; Sat, 11:05am, 1:55, 10:10pm; Sun-Thu (12/1), 1:55, 4:45, 7:30, 10:10
J. Edgar (digital): Fri-Thu (12/1), 12:15, 3:30, 6:45, 10:00
Jack and Jill (digital): Fri-Sun, 11:10am, 1:50, 4:25, 6:50, 9:30pm; Mon-Thu (12/1), 1:50, 4:25, 6:50, 9:30
The Muppets (digital): Fri-Sun, 11:10am, 2:00, 3:00, 4:50, 7:40, 9:05, 10:30pm; Mon-Thu (12/1), 2:00, 3:00, 4:50, 7:40, 9:05, 10:30
Puss in Boots (3-D): Fri-Thu (12/1), 1:45, 6:55
Puss in Boots (digital): Fri-Sun, 11:15am, 4:15, 9:25pm; Mon-Thu (12/1), 4:15, 9:25
Tower Heist (digital): Fri-Sun, 11:20am, 2:10, 4:55, 7:45, 10:20pm; Mon-Thu (12/1), 2:10, 4:55, 7:45, 10:20
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Down – Part 1 (digital): Fri-Sun, 11:00am, 12:30, 2:05, 3:35, 5:10, 6:30, 7:20, 8:15, 9:40, 10:25; Wed, 12:30, 2:05, 3:35, 6:30, 7:20, 9:40,

10:25; Thu (12/1), 12:30, 2:05, 3:35, 5:10, 6:30, 7:20, 8:15, 9:40, 10:25

CINEMARK MOVIES 8 ROUND ROCK 2120 N. Mays,

Round Rock, 512/388-2848. Discounts daily before 5pm. Call theatre for Nov. 23-Dec. 1 showtimes.

CINEMARK ROUND ROCK 4401 N. I-35, Round Rock,

800/FANDANGO. Cost for 3-D shows is regular ticket price plus a \$3.50 premium. Call theatre for Nov. 25-Dec. 1 showtimes.
Arthur Christmas (digital): Thu (11/24), 10:35am, 1:05, 3:40, 6:10, 8:15, 10:40pm
Happy Feet Two (3-D): Thu (11/24), 11:20am, 1:55, 4:40, 7:15, 9:50pm
Happy Feet Two (digital): Thu (11/24), 10:45am, 1:10, 3:35, 6:05, 8:30, 10:55pm
Immortals (3-D): Thu (11/24), 10:50am, 1:25, 4:00, 6:35, 9:10pm
Immortals (digital): Thu (11/24), 10:20am, 12:55, 3:30, 6:20, 8:40pm
The Muppets (digital): Thu (11/24), 10:15am, 11:45, 12:50, 2:20, 3:25, 4:55, 6:15, 7:35, 8:55, 10:05pm
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Down – Part 1 (digital): Thu (11/24), 10:00am, 10:30, 11:00, 12:00, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 3:00, 4:00, 4:30, 5:00, 6:00, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 9:00, 10:00, 10:30, 10:45pm; Fri, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00, 4:00, 5:00, 6:00, 7:00, 8:00, 9:00, 10:00

CINEMARK SOUTHPARK MEADOWS 9900 S. I-35,

800/FANDANGO. Cost for 3-D shows is regular ticket price plus a \$3.50 premium. Call theatre for Nov. 24 and Nov. 28-Dec. 1 showtimes.
Arthur Christmas (3-D): Fri, 11:25am, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:35pm; Fri-Sat, 11:25am, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:35pm; Sun, 11:25am, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:35pm; Fri, 11:25am, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:35pm
Arthur Christmas (digital): Fri, 9:45am, 12:20, 2:55, 5:25pm; Fri-Sat, 9:45am, 12:20, 2:55, 5:25pm; Sat-Sun, 9:45am, 12:20, 2:55, 5:25pm
NCM Fathom: *Esmerelda*: Wed, 6:30pm
Happy Feet Two (3-D): Fri-Sun, 11:40am, 2:25, 5:15, 7:45pm
Happy Feet Two (digital): Fri-Sun, 10:25am, 1:00, 3:40, 6:15, 8:45pm
Hugo (3-D): Fri-Sun, 10:40am, 1:35, 4:25, 7:15, 10:05pm
Hugo (digital): Fri, 10:05am; Fri-Sat, 10:05am; Sat-Sun, 10:05am; Sun, 10:05am
Immortals (3-D): Fri-Sun, 9:00pm
Immortals (digital): Fri-Sun, 11:20am, 2:10, 5:00, 7:40pm
J. Edgar (digital): Fri-Sun, 1:10, 4:15, 7:15, 10:15
***Jack and Jill (digital):** Fri-Sun, 11:00am, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 9:45pm
The Muppets (digital): Fri-Sun, 10:00am, 10:50, 12:45, 1:30, 3:30, 4:10, 6:25, 9:15pm
Puss in Boots (digital): Fri-Sun, 10:10am, 12:35, 3:05, 5:20, 7:40, 9:55pm
Tower Heist (digital): Fri-Sun, 6:50, 9:50
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Down – Part 1 (digital): Fri-Sun, 10:15am, 11:15, 12:20, 1:05, 2:15, 2:55, 4:00, 5:00, 6:05, 6:55, 8:00, 9:00, 9:40, 10:20pm
A Very Harold & Kumar 3D Christmas (3-D): Fri-Sun, 10:10pm

CINEMARK STONE HILL TOWN CENTER

18820 Hilltop Commercial Dr. (southwest corner of high-ways 130 & 45), 512/251-0938. Call theatre for Nov. 24 and Nov. 27-Dec. 1 showtimes.
Arthur Christmas (3-D): Fri-Sun, 9:45am, 3:30, 9:00pm
Arthur Christmas (digital): Fri-Sat, 12:30, 6:15
NCM Fathom: *Esmerelda*: Wed, 6:30pm
Happy Feet Two (3-D): Fri-Sat, 9:45am, 12:20, 3:00pm
Happy Feet Two (digital): Fri-Sat, 11:00am, 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:20pm
Immortals (digital): Fri-Sat, 11:50am, 2:30, 5:10, 7:40, 10:30pm
Jack and Jill (digital): Fri-Sat, 9:35am, 11:50, 2:10, 4:50, 7:20, 10:00pm
The Muppets (digital): Thu (11/24), 9:30am, 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30pm; Fri-Sat, 9:30am, 10:00, 12:30, 3:30, 5:40, 6:30, 9:30

It's an old debate about acting styles that's not likely to disappear anytime soon, and although *My Week With Marilyn* gives the discussion a good airing, it does not break any new ground on the subject. Thus, this indifferently shot film winds up being another in a long line of creative works by men that exploit the legacy of Marilyn Monroe for their own satisfaction and little public good.

★★★ – Marjorie Baumgarten
Alamo Ritz, Arbor

THE TWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN – PART 1

D: Bill Condon; with Kristen Stewart, Robert Pattinson, Taylor Lautner, Billy Burke, Peter Facinelli, Ashley Greene, Nikki Reed. (PG-13, 117 min.)

Bella Swan (Stewart) has had a rough go of it. Her high school sweetheart, Edward Cullen (Pattinson), turned out to be a non-practicing bloodsucker, and her rebound, Jacob (Lautner), morphed into a wolf. Then she and Edward got back together, and homeboy couldn't even heavy pet without waking the vampire within. But she's 18 now, and all those years of sexual repression are nothing that can't be turned around by some women's studies classes, a vibrator, or, hell, even a *Sex and the City* box set.

Alas, this is not that movie. Indeed, this is more or less the same movie we've been seeing all along: Bella wants it; Edward won't give it up. Even after the wedding that opens this fourth adaptation of Stephenie Meyer's *Twilight* books, the topic of will-they-or-won't-they is still on the table. While on honeymoon, their first attempt results in Edward splintering the bed and accidentally roughing up Bella. (When she reassures him she's fine and knows he didn't mean to bruise her, it creepily whiffs of battered-wife syndrome.) So Edward swears off all carnal pleasures; wouldn't she rather play another game of chess instead? It was about the time a teary Bella literally begged her husband to fuck her that the *Twilight* series officially made the transition for me from more or less harmless Victorian-minded trash to something flatly pernicious.

And boring, to boot. The filmmakers decided to break the fourth and final book of Meyer's series into two parts, ostensibly to accommodate its surfeit of action. They must be saving all that for *Part 2*. *Part 1* is an endless swap of dewy then sulky looks between Bella and Edward. Screenwriter Melissa Rosenberg continues her long tradition of scripting staggeringly banal, subtext-free dialogue and grasping at the profundity of her betters by quoting poetry in the prologues. (The sex-positive Edna St. Vincent Millay must be rolling over in her grave.) Bill Condon (*Dreamgirls*, *Chicago*, *Gods and Monsters*) takes over the directing reins for these final two parts; his most noteworthy contribution to the series so far is a terrifyingly staged birth scene that should turn the teen fan base off of sex altogether ... which is precisely what this whole dumb, punishing series has been gunning for from the start.

★ – Kimberley Jones
Alamo Lake Creek, Alamo Lamar, Alamo Village, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Cinemark Stone Hill Town Center, Flix Brewhouse, Highland, Gateway, iPic, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Millennium, Tinseltown North, Westgate

FIRST RUNS

*Full-length reviews available online at austinchronicle.com. Dates at end of reviews indicate original publication date.

COURAGEOUS

D: Alex Kendrick; with Kendrick, Ken Bevel, Kevin Downes, Ben Davies. (PG-13, 129 min.)

In this faith-based drama from the makers of *Fireproof*, four policemen struggle with their roles as husbands and fathers. (09/30/2011) – Marjorie Baumgarten
Tinseltown South

50/50

D: Jonathan Levine; with Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Seth Rogen, Anna Kendrick, Anjelica Huston, Bryce Dallas Howard. (R, 99 min.)

50/50 accomplishes the near-impossible: It's a feel-good cancer comedy. Writer Will Reiser based the script on his own bout with spinal cancer in his early 20s. His real-life best friend, Rogen, plays his own fictional surrogate: the schlubby, emotionally stunted fount of dick jokes that we've come to know and love. Joseph Gordon-Levitt is Reiser's stand-in, a Seattle-based National Public Radio producer diagnosed with a rare kind of cancer that doesn't come with great odds (the title's 50/50). In keeping with a character who is kind and cautious, Gordon-Levitt skips big theatrics for tiny masterstrokes of emotion and a winning matter-of-factness in his delivery of Reiser's cuttishly funny writing ("Nobody wants to fuck me; I look like Voldemort"). 50/50 dispatches the comedic and the dramatic with aplomb. There's some overall flabbiness, but mostly it's just terribly funny and sad and beautiful and terrifically feel-good for being, you know, a cancer comedy. (09/30/2011)

★★★★ – Kimberley Jones
Metropolitan

My Week With Marilyn



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HAPPY FEET TWO

D: George Miller; with the voices of Elijah Wood, Robin Williams, Hank Azaria, Alecia "Pink" Moore, Brad Pitt, Matt Damon, Ava Acres, Sofia Vergara, Common, Hugo Weaving, Richard Carter, Anthony LaPaglia. (PG, 100 min.)

There's lots of peril but not much story in this sequel to 2006's animated-penguin blockbuster. The movie opens with a big song-and-dance number in which young Erik (Acres) is unable to dance but is encouraged to do so by his mom, Gloria (Pink), and dad, Mumble (Elijah Wood), who were the central characters in the original. Erik wants to find his own thing, so he takes off with some friends for lands beyond. Mumble soon rescues Erik, but upon their return they find the penguins' habitat has shifted, leaving the flock trapped. Concurrently, we meet Will (Pitt) and Bill (Damon), a couple of krill who decide they're tired of being "one in a krillion" and set off on their own adventure. Although appealing to look at, *Happy Feet Two* is unable to spark much emotional involvement, and the film's near-constant peril may intimidate the young ones in the audience. (11/18/2011)

★★★ – Marjorie Baumgarten
Alamo Lake Creek, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, Southpark Meadows, Cinemark Stone Hill Town Center, Flix Brewhouse, Highland, Gateway, IMAX Theatre, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

THE HELP

D: Tate Taylor; with Viola Davis, Emma Stone, Octavia Spencer, Bryce Dallas Howard, Jessica Chastain, Allison Janney, Sissy Spacek, Cicely Tyson, Mary Steenburgen. (PG-13, 146 min.)

A major complaint brought against Kathryn Stockett's 2009 bestseller *The Help* was that a white woman didn't have any business writing a civil rights-era novel from the perspective of black maids. It's hard to imagine Tate Taylor's positively polite film adaptation drawing much controversy; it's hardly worth arguing over offensiveness in its anodyne interpretation of the civil rights struggle of 1963. As in the source novel, *The Help* alternates

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THE DESCENDANTS
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Not about the American punk band from the 80s, THE DESCENDANTS follows a father (George Clooney) who just can't get it together.



Sing-Alongs:
THE NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS
11/27 @ Lake Creek

What's the best way to start preparing for the holidays? By visiting Jack Skellington, the King of Pumpkintown of course!



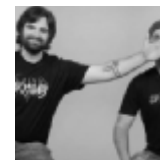
Girlie Night:
WHEN HARRY MET SALLY
11/16 @ South Lamar

Pull on your days of the week underpants, add some pepper to your paprikash and let's all have what she's having!



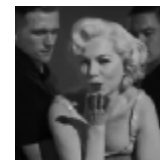
Cinema Club:
SECONDS w/ WILEY WIGGINS
11/27 @ Ritz

Banker Arthur Hamilton gets a call one day from a friend he thought was dead. It turns out that the friend is not a ghost, but was simply faking all along.



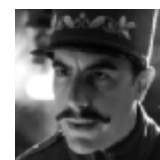
A VERY GREEN & LYNCH CHRISTMAS
11/28 @ Ritz

Adam Green and Joe Lynch are coming to the Ritz for one night only to serve you an unhealthy amount of movie cuts with all the artery-clogging trimmings.



MY WEEK WITH MARILYN
Opens 11/25 @ Ritz

"[Michele] Williams makes Monroe simultaneously seem larger than life and heartbreakingly human."
– Rene Rodriguez, Miami Herald



HUGO 3D
Opens 11/23 @ Lake Creek

From acclaimed director Martin Scorsese comes an somewhat unlikely first: A children's story -- in 3D, no less. Based on author Brian Selznick's award-winning book.

ALSO SCREENING: UT Football: Longhorns v. A&M (11/24) » **Master Pancake Celebrates Hankssgiving (11/25)** » Lord of the Rings Trilogy Hobbit Feast (11/27) » **Music Monday: ACL Reel Rarities: Loretta Lynn (11/28)** » Celluloid Handbag (11/29) » **Weird Wednesday: The Working Girls (11/30)** » Action Pack: Die Hard (12/1) » **The Ye-Z In Love Sing-Along (12/1)** » Zzang!!!: Gremlins 2: The New Batch (12/2) » **Sing-Alongs: We Will Rock You: Queen (12/2)**

Thanksgiving Dinner option available for all screenings starting before 8pm on Thurs, Nov 24th at all locations!

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The Palm Beach Story

D: Preston Sturges; with Claudette Colbert, Joel McCrea. (1942, NR, 90 min.) **Austin Film Society: And It Feels So Good – Comedies of Remarriage.** Colbert plays yet another runaway heroine (a role she trademarked) in a screwball comedy, but with Sturges' usual subversive spin, she's running away from the man she loves so she can marry someone for his money. This is Sturges at his pithiest and with his choicest cast of supporting loons. (*) @Alamo Lamar, Tuesday, 7pm.



perspectives between Aibileen (Davis), a tough-as-nails maid mourning the death of her son while worrying about the white child in her charge; saucy Minny (Spencer); and Skeeter (Stone), a white woman who bucks her background to write a book with Minny and Aibileen about what it's like to be "the help." *The Help* may be more interested in the moral at the end of the story than the story itself, but what saves the film from its meticulous one-dimensionality is its nuanced, deeply moving cast. (08/12/2011)

★★★ – Kimberley Jones
Tinseltown South

THE IDES OF MARCH

D: George Clooney; with Clooney, Ryan Gosling, Philip Seymour Hoffman, Paul Giamatti, Evan Rachel Wood, Marisa Tomei, Jeffrey Wright, Max Minghella. (R, 102 min.)

The gray slush of Ohio in winter provides a suitable backdrop for George Clooney's morality tale about American politics. This story about the erosion of idealism and loyalty is told from the perspective of Stephen Meyers (Ryan Gosling), press secretary for Clooney's Democratic Gov. Mike Morris, who is engaged in a presidential primary in Ohio. Meyers' mentor is Paul Zara (Philip Seymour Hoffman), whose tired, rumpled, and flabby demeanor and constant second-guessing tell us everything we need to know about the mental state of political operatives. He is matched in kind by Tom Duffy (Paul Giamatti), the campaign manager of Morris' rival, who is equally rumpled and flabby but just a little bit meaner. Add to that Gosling again proving his vast versatility and Marisa Tomei as a hustling journalist trolling for a scoop. Despite some narrative missteps, the perfectly cast *Ides of March* still ranks as one of the season's most intelligent and polished films. (10/07/2011)

★★★★ – Marjorie Baumgarten
Metropolitan

IMMORTALS

D: Tarsem Singh; with Henry Cavill, Mickey Rourke, John Hurt, Kellan Lutz, Freida Pinto, Luke Evans. (R, 110 min.)

What Tarsem Singh's first two films, 2000's *The Cell* and 2006's *The Fall*, lacked in narrative articulateness he balanced out with visual verve. Which, I suppose, made Singh a no-brainer to take on this cobbled-together Greek myth. Henry Cavill plays Theseus, a blank-eyed, bastard-born villager who, unbeknownst to him, has been hand-picked by the Olympian gods to lead a revolt against the blood-thirsty King Hyperion (Rourke). There's more to the story – a magical bow, a sexy virgin oracle (Pinto), caged Titans – none of it terribly interesting. The plot exists primarily to take us from one gruesome act to the next. Barbarity, of course, was the Greek gods' bread and butter, but there's more to thrill at in three lines of Homer than the whole of Singh's numbingly choreographed chaos and lascivious bloodletting. The Greek myths will endure. The same cannot be said for Singh's silly, self-serious, instantly forgettable, and inaptly named *Immortals*. (11/18/2011)

★★ – Kimberley Jones
Alamo Village, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, Southpark Meadows, Cinemark Stone Hill Town Center, Flix Brewhouse, Highland, Gateway, iPic, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

IN TIME

D: Andrew Niccol; with Amanda Seyfried, Justin Timberlake, Alex Pettyfer, Cillian Murphy, Olivia Wilde. (PG-13, 109 min.)

In Time shares similar DNA with writer/director Andrew Niccol's 1997 debut, *Gattaca*, as both dabble in a seemingly refined future that's dystopian for the have-nots, but *In Time* is a far chintzier production. The concept is that in the near future, time has become the most precious commodity. To combat overcrowding, all humans stop aging at 25 and their clocks start counting down. Wages are paid with added time to one's lifespan, while rent and bread money are subtracted, so the rich stockpile centuries, and the poor drop dead in the street. There's concept, and then there's execution, and Niccol's corn-ball double entendres about time imbue the film with a hokeyness it never recovers from. Casting Justin Timberlake and Amanda Seyfried can only go so far to counteract the film's fundamental unhipness. They have some fun as class warriors on the lam, but it's all just big-budget dress-up in a futurescape that reeks of phoniness. (11/04/2011)

★ – Kimberley Jones
Barton Creek Square, Gateway, Tinseltown South

INTO THE ABYSS

D: Werner Herzog. (PG-13, 106 min.)
I'm not entirely sure what to make of Herzog's documentary about a 1991 triple homicide in rural Texas and its resulting repercussions, up to and including the execution of 28-year-old Michael Perry, one of two men convicted in the homicides. Certainly, this is an indictment of capital punishment as an effective deterrent to crime, but it's also an indictment of small-town idiocy and the folly of misguided youth. Conroe, Texas, comes off looking like the 10th ring of hell – a place filled with random violence, Skoal tobacco chewers, and an overall sense of intellectual and spiritual depredation. Utilizing police crime-scene videos and interviews with the killers, the relatives of the slain, and even the death-house chaplain, Herzog indicts poor child-rearing skills, bad educational systems, and the basest instincts of human behavior all

The Working Girls

D: Stephanie Rothman. **Weird Wednesday.** (1974, R, 81 min.) In the last film she directed, Rothman is clearly hampered by the limitations of the exploitation genre, which had previously afforded her so many opportunities to insert a feminist subtext into the proceedings. Here, she depicts young women struggling to find legitimate work but eventually undone by the activities of their menfolk. Before she became Elvira, Cassandra Peterson co-stars in the buff. @Alamo Ritz, Wednesday, 9:45pm.



in one brutal go. Ever the eloquent interviewer/documentarian, Herzog's technically flawless film will leave you emotionally reeling. (11/18/2011)

★★★ – Marc Savlov
Arbor

J. EDGAR

D: Clint Eastwood; with Leonardo DiCaprio, Naomi Watts, Armie Hammer, Judi Dench, Josh Lucas, Stephen Root, Dermot Mulroney. (R, 136 min.)

It seems right that the man who played Dirty Harry would now, in his ridiculously productive twilight, turn his attention to the legacy of J. Edgar Hoover, played with great virtuosity by Leonardo DiCaprio. For all the good Hoover accomplished in bringing the bureau into the modern age of forensics by using scrupulous scientific methods and establishing a national database of fingerprints, the man was also undone by his bigotry, secrecy, narrow-minded dogma, and unbridled power to ruin lives. Eastwood gives us both sides of this figure – a portrait of a full human being and not just as the butt of an unfounded joke about closeted transvestites. The time frame jumps around, spanning decades in a single leap, but it doesn't strain the structure. Eastwood and DiCaprio have delivered a nuanced story about a man, a mythos, and an institution that relies on the facts rather than the legend. (11/11/2011)

★★★★ – Marjorie Baumgarten
Alamo Lake Creek, Alamo Village, Arbor, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, Southpark Meadows, Flix Brewhouse, Highland, iPic, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Violet Crown, Westgate

JACK AND JILL

D: Dennis Dugan; with Adam Sandler, Katie Holmes, Al Pacino, Eugenio Derbez, Nick Swardson, Tim Meadows, Valerie Mahaffey. (PG, 91 min.)

It's probably worse than pointless to ask what has become of the Adam Sandler who once upon a time took a courageous chance on *Punch-Drunk Love* or was as consistently hilarious as he was in *Happy Gilmore*. The downhill slide is only made more comically perilous here, with Sandler cast as Los Angeles ad executive Jack Sadelstein as well as his needy, harpy-esque twin sister Jill, who has arrived from the Bronx to spend the Thanksgiving holiday with her brother's family and then extends her stay way past the sibling breaking point. (Holmes is utterly wasted as Jack's wife Erin.) Two Adam Sandler's for the price of one? *And Al Pacino?* It's like a dream. A horrible, depressingly cookie-cutter dream conceived by a craven Hollywood exec who thinks no one will notice how similar in hysterical tone and lazy execution this is to too many previous Sandler outings to name. (11/18/2011)

★ – Marc Savlov
Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, Southpark Meadows, Cinemark Stone Hill Town Center, Gateway, iPic, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

LIKE CRAZY

D: Drake Doremus; with Felicity Jones, Anton Yelchin, Jennifer Lawrence, Charlie Bewley, Alex Kingston, Oliver Muirhead, Finola Hughes. (PG-13, 90 min.)

Two college kids sit across from each other, tentative, shyly smiling, and on a first date. First there's Anna (Jones), British and bucktoothed lovely, then Jacob (Yelchin), who is all gentleness. Director Drake Doremus (*Douchebag*) foreshadows here a defining fact of Anna and Jacob's relationship: They do not share the same space. Flamed with love, Anna overstays her student visa and is barred from re-entry to the States. The bulk of the film follows Jacob flying back and forth between Los Angeles and London for fitful reunions and visa appeals, broken by scenes of their lives apart. There's no question that the actors and filmmakers have fashioned a compelling love story of a certain age – which is not to be confused for a love story for the ages. In its inability to explore Anna and Jacob's evolving relationship adultly, *Like Crazy* is a pantomime of its sweet but depthless young lovers. (11/11/2011)

★★★ – Kimberley Jones
Arbor

MARTHA MARCY MAY MARLENE

D: Sean Durkin; with Elizabeth Olsen, John Hawkes, Sarah Paulson, Brady Corbet, Hugh Dancy. (R, 101 min.)

On an isolated farm in upstate New York, a teenage girl, Martha (Olsen), works the fields, does chores, and communes with both nature and a band of off-grid Luddites led by the wiry, charismatic Patrick (Hawkes). "You look more like a Marcy May," he tells her before she's sexually initiated – raped is the correct word here – into what turns out to be a cult. Director Durkin cleverly messes with the narrative structure as Martha flees the group and eventually arrives at the home of her well-to-do sister Lucy (Paulson) and brother-in-law Ted (Dancy). This haunting feature has a dreamy timelessness that transcends our ultrawired era. Like its scared, damaged, and terribly confused protagonist, Durkin's film seems to exist in its own fractured dream state. It's hypnotic, narcotic, and trembling on the verge of dread or redemption or some hazy state of nothingness in between. (11/04/2011)

★★★★ – Marc Savlov
Arbor

MELANCHOLIA

D: Lars von Trier; with Kirsten Dunst, Charlotte Gainsbourg, Kiefer Sutherland, Alexander Skarsgård, Brady Corbet, Charlotte Rampling, John Hurt, Stellan Skarsgård, Udo Kier, Cameron Spurr. (R, 136 min.)

It's the end of the world, and Lars von Trier knows it. The famously depressed Danish filmmaker brings his vision of human annihilation to the screen in this visually stunning, thematically rich, perversely humorous, and sublimely virtuosic film. Earth faces destruction from collision with a planet named Melancholia, which has only recently been discovered because it's been hiding behind the sun. The first half of *Melancholia* is devoted to the wedding reception of Justine (Dunst) and Michael (Skarsgård), held at the lavish estate of Justine's sister Claire (Gainsbourg) and her husband, John (Sutherland). When news reports mount about the impending natural disaster, Claire's state of mind grows frenzied while Justine declares placidly: "The Earth is evil. We are alone." Dunst's performance is a thing of calm beauty and mired grit. If von Trier seemed as though he was at a creative dead end with his last film, *Antichrist*, he has reawakened with beautiful, haunting disaster film. (11/18/2011)

★★★★ – Marjorie Baumgarten
Alamo Lamar, Violet Crown

MONEYBALL

D: Bennett Miller; with Brad Pitt, Jonah Hill, Philip Seymour Hoffman, Robin Wright, Kerris Dorsey, Chris Pratt, Reed Diamond, Stephen Bishop. (PG-13, 133 min.)

Moneyball is a smart, funny, and thoughtful baseball movie that tells us more about what happens in the managers' offices than out on the ball field. Based on Michael Lewis' 2003 book, *Moneyball* details the true story of the turnaround strategy employed by Oakland A's General Manager Billy Beane (played by Brad Pitt) in the team's 2002 season. With the help of Peter Brand (Jonah Hill), a Yale economics graduate who concocts mathematical formulas to forecast wins, Beane repopulates his roster with undervalued athletes after his top three players are purchased by wealthier teams, and in this way the little guys might be able to even the playing field. While

Seconds

D: John Frankenheimer; with Rock Hudson, Will Geer. (1966, R, 107 min.) **Cinema Club.** Pick out someone you'd like to be and, if you're rich enough, it can be arranged. That's the promise of a secret organization in this claustrophobic thriller, which must have caused star Rock Hudson to ponder plenty about secret identities. Wiley Wiggins, star of *Dazed and Confused*, is the guest presenter. See "Going Back for 'Seconds'" p.49, for more on the film. @Alamo Ritz, Sunday, 7pm.



some of its tangents add little to the story, *Moneyball* is certain to appeal to both sports fans and nonfans alike, and, even when the film is shagging flies, it's an engaging pleasure to watch. (09/23/2011) ★★★ – Marjorie Baumgarten iPic

PARANORMAL ACTIVITY 3

D: Henry Joost, Ariel Schulman; with Katie Featherston, Chris Smith, Sprague Grayden, Lauren Bittner, Brian Boland, Chloe Csengery, Jessica Tyler Brown, Dustin Ingram. (R, 81 min.) Well, I'll be damned to hell! This third outing in the faux documentary/found footage supernatural shocker series finally gets things right. This one fucking creeped me out. Helmed by *Catfish* directors Joost and Schulman, *Paranormal Activity 3* is still no one's idea of a classic horror film, but it delivers the *gotcha* moments with subtlety and brio compared to its clunky predecessors. The plot, what there is of it, finds a cache of old VHS tapes, circa 1988, purporting to show what happened to the frightened Rey family, led by wedding videographer dad Dennis (Smith) and mom Julie (Bittner), who begin to experience odd goings-on after youngest daughter Kristi (Brown) starts chatting up her "invisible friend" Toby. Things go to hell from there, literally. *Paranormal Activity 3* has enough jolts, frissons, and downright freak-outs to qualify as the best teen date movie of the season, if not the year. Boo. Scary. (10/21/2011) ★★★ – Marc Savlov Tinseltown South

PUSS IN BOOTS

D: Chris Miller; with the voices of Antonio Banderas, Salma Hayek, Zach Galifianakis, Billy Bob Thornton, Amy Sedaris. (PG, 90 min.) This animated spin-off from the *Shrek* trilogy presents the origin story of the green ogre's sidekick, Puss in Boots. DreamWorks' hero's tale is bolstered by solid storytelling and voice work, more deranged fairy-tale mash-ups, and an abundance of feline cuteness. Antonio Banderas' Puss is at once a lover and a fighter, part Zorro and part Pepé Le Pew, and his pairing with Salma Hayek, who provides the voice of Kitty Softpaws, is *muy* simpatico. The plot takes us back to Puss' childhood in an orphanage, where he becomes best friends with Humpty Dumpty (Galifianakis), a large egg who tricks the cat into a bank robbery that goes wrong, leaving Puss in exile and Humpty with a chip on his shoulder. There's a lot of chase and rescue to fill out the meager storyline, but the top-notch voice work keeps us attuned to the screen. *Puss in Boots* is cute and entertaining but hardly purr-fect. (10/28/2011) ★★★ – Marjorie Baumgarten Alamo Village, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, Southpark Meadows, Cinemark Stone Hill Town Center, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

REAL STEEL

D: Shawn Levy; with Hugh Jackman, Dakota Goyo, Evangeline Lilly, Anthony Mackie, Kevin Durand, Hope Davis. (PG-13, 127 min.) *Real Steel* may have a hardened outer shell, but it's pure marshmallow on the inside. This kids' film mixes the heart of come-from-behind boxing dramas with the geeky gadget gestalt of films



like *Transformers*. Thinly derived from a Richard Matheson short story, *Real Steel* is set in a debased near-future in which robot boxing is all the rage. Charlie Kenton (Jackman) is a former champion boxer who now hustles robot matches. He's a gruff, unlikable guy, and when he's informed of his long-lost son, Max (Goyo), whose mother has just died, Charlie makes self-serving financial arrangements for the boy's care, never guessing he and his son will bond before the summer is through. The film's predictability is a serious drawback, but *Night at the Museum* director Shawn Levy hits all the right notes that should guarantee the film's appeal to young and old joystick junkies who, despite outward appearances, harbor sentimental hearts. (10/07/2011) ★★★ – Marjorie Baumgarten Metropolitan

ROCKSTAR

D: Imtiaz Ali; with Ranbir Kapoor, Shammi Kapoor, Nargis Fakhri, Shikha Jain, Jaideep Ahlawat. (NR, 160 min., subtitled) (11/18/2011) In this Bollywood film a young man in Delhi seeks to become a rock star. – Marjorie Baumgarten Tinseltown South

THE RUM DIARY

D: Bruce Robinson; with Johnny Depp, Michael Rispoli, Amber Heard, Giovanni Ribisi, Richard Jenkins, Aaron Eckhart, Bill Smitrovich. (R, 120 min.) Adapted from Hunter S. Thompson's first novel, this film version is more aptly described as a sloe gin fizz. Set in San Juan, Puerto Rico, in 1960, Depp plays Thompson's alter ego, Paul Kemp, a budding journo-cum-novelist who's living in suspended, rum-infused doldrums while working for English-language newspaper *The San Juan Star*. He's joined in the sugary haze by seasoned newshounds Sala (Rispoli), the photographer, and Ribisi's prune of a writer, Moburg. Kemp, socializing with the best and worst of them, eventually catches the eye of Chenault (Heard), the sigh-worthy wife of yanqui developer Sanderson. What *The Rum Diary* lacks in narrative astonishment it almost makes up for in boozy charm. In the end, *The Rum Diary* feels like a work of writerly juvenilia, half-baked but not unpleasant. Like the tropical breezes that waft off of the screen, it reeks of promise yet to be fulfilled. And booze. Lots and lots of booze. (10/28/2011) ★★★ – Marc Savlov Metropolitan

THE SKIN I LIVE IN

D: Pedro Almodóvar; with Antonio Banderas, Elena Anaya, Marisa Paredes, Jan Cornet, Roberto Álamo, Blanca Suárez. (R, 117 min., subtitled) An elaborate puzzle of a film that confounds expectations in the grandest of ways, this tricky masterpiece from Almodóvar, Spain's maestro of madness, dominates every iota of your attention. Antonio Banderas' character, Dr. Robert Ledgard, is a plastic surgeon of some renown who long ago lost his wife in an automobile accident. Working out of his fortresslike home in Toledo, Spain, he also has a live-in patient, a young woman, Vera (Anaya), who spends her days garbed head to toe in a skintight bodysuit and may or may not be there of her own inclination. Something very peculiar, perhaps morally reprehensible, is going on, but the exact nature of this outré situation is only revealed by the slow, strange turns of fate's wheel. Banderas' performance is so rich, so complex, and eventually, so very dark that it frazzles

your brain stem. Almodóvar blows his characters' minds, and then yours, and you love him for it. Bravo! (11/11/2011) ★★★ – Marc Savlov Alamo Lamar, Arbor, Violet Crown

TAKE SHELTER

D: Jeff Nichols; with Michael Shannon, Jessica Chastain, Tova Stewart, Shea Whigham, Katy Mixon, Kathy Baker. (R, 120 min.) Curtis LaForche (Shannon) stands in the wide-open expanse of his yard in Ohio, staring at the horizon, sensing that something is wrong. Storm clouds are massing in the distance, and when the rain begins to fall, it has the consistency of motor oil. It's just one of the many troubling sensations and nightmarish images Curtis has recently noticed. Curtis has what his friend Dewart (Whigham) describes as a "good life." He has a good job; his wife, Samantha (Chastain), is beautiful and supportive; and his young daughter, Hannah (Stewart), though deaf, is developing nicely. So, is he going crazy, or is he just tuned in to some larger apocalypse brewing? Writer/director and Austin resident Jeff Nichols has crafted a deeply unsettling movie with *Take Shelter*. The film's epilogue is sure to be a source of contention for many viewers. Without disclosing anything, let's just say that it is a major misstep in an otherwise beautifully modulated movie. (10/28/2011) ★★★ – Marjorie Baumgarten Arbor

THE THREE MUSKETEERS

D: Paul W.S. Anderson; with Logan Lerman, Milla Jovovich, Orlando Bloom, Ray Stevenson, Luke Evans, Matthew Macfadyen. (PG-13, 110 min.) Have we retained nothing of the lessons of *Hudson Hawk*? Like that early Nineties comical disaster, *The Three Musketeers* hinges on the secret machinations of Leonardo da Vinci. It's worth pointing out that when the Musketeers – roll call: Porthos (Stevenson), Athos (Macfadyen), and Aramis (Evans) – raid Leonardo's vault for the schematics to a flying war machine, they flood the underground lair on their way out, destroying thousands of documents in the process. That carelessness doesn't so much as raise an eyebrow; I mention it here only to highlight the rancid

taste of these early scenes, which are an indiscriminately violent bore to behold. Still, once you accept Paul W.S. Anderson's entirely unnecessary adaptation on its own terms (nonsensical, underachieving), it has its limited charms, which include a snigger-inducing alphabet soup of accents, a standout rooftop swordfight, and British comedian James Corden as the Musketeers' put-upon manservant. (10/28/2011) ★★ – Kimberley Jones Tinseltown South

TOWER HEIST

D: Brett Ratner; with Ben Stiller, Eddie Murphy, Casey Affleck, Alan Alda, Matthew Broderick, Téa Leoni, Michael Peña. (PG-13, 105 min.) Alert to the righteous rage of the 99 Percenters and canny about how to mine that rage for laughs, *Tower Heist* is like *Ocean's Eleven* meets class consciousness. Ben Stiller plays Josh Kovacs, the manager of a luxury condo in Manhattan called the Tower, where he commands a small army of housekeepers, concierges, and security guards. When the Tower's penthouse-dwelling big-shot investor Arthur Shaw (Alda) is taken into federal custody for some funny business with the books, his entire staff's pension plans are gone, and the people-pleasing building manager wants revenge. Going rogue, Josh gathers a motley crew – including Eddie Murphy's ex-con Slide – to filch the \$20 million Shaw has hidden in his penthouse. A constitutionally glib director, Brett Ratner is nevertheless a professional: He's made a lean and likable action comedy that motors along at a satisfying clip. *Tower Heist* nails the humor, all right, but also, quite crucially, humanizes the high concept. (11/04/2011) ★★★ – Kimberley Jones Alamo Lake Creek, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, Southpark Meadows, Cinemark Stone Hill Town Center, Flix Brewhouse, Highland, Gateway, iPic, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

A VERY HAROLD & KUMAR 3D CHRISTMAS

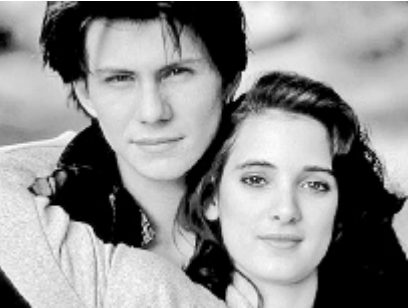
D: Todd Strauss-Schulson; with Kal Penn, John Cho, Neil Patrick Harris, Thomas Lennon, Danny Trejo, Paula Garcés. (R, 89 min.) This is the first of the three Harold and Kumar titles in which the weed-loving pair aren't actively coming or going, and it shows. A grinning but toothless comedy, this Christmas-themed outing pales in ineventiveness compared to the original. Ah well. We've all gotten a little older, haven't we? Hell, Harold (Cho) doesn't even smoke pot anymore. Married and settled in the suburbs, he wants to give his wife, Maria (Garcés), and her clan (including Trejo's gruff Papi) the perfect Christmas. That plan goes up in smoke when the tree is accidentally torched during a visit by Harold's estranged best friend, Kumar (Penn), thus setting into motion a quest picture with an ingenuity deficit. It gets a pretty good buzz going with a kicky Claymation nightmarescape, Cho and Penn's genial rapport, and the picturesque three-dimensionalizing of plumes of pot smoke. But those pleasures are fleeting – gone, if you will, with the weed. (11/11/2011) ★★★ – Kimberley Jones Barton Creek Square, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

THE WAY

D: Emilio Estevez; with Martin Sheen, Deborah Kara Unger, James Nesbitt, Yorick van Wageningen, Tchéky Karyo, Emilio Estevez. (PG-13, 115 min.) Adapted from Jack Hitt's nonfiction book *Off the Road*, *The Way* stars the grizzled Martin Sheen as Tom, an optometrist who travels to Europe to claim the ashes of his estranged son, Daniel (writer/director/real-life son Emilio Estevez), who died in a freak accident along "The Way," an ancient route of pilgrimage known as the El Camino de Santiago. Grimly determined to finish what his son started, Tom straps on Daniel's pack and makes the trek. He's joined by other damaged souls he meets along the path, and they coalesce into a kind of movie-friendly pack of strays whose idea of a *bon camino* involves lots of laughter and good wine. Thematically, *The Way* is spiritual but not terribly religious, kinda dopey but admirably sincere. *The Way* never arrives anywhere you couldn't see coming a mile away, but it does so with such empathy that its conclusions feel comforting rather than predictable. (10/14/2011) ★★★ – Kimberley Jones Arbor

Heathers

D: Michael Lehmann; with Winona Ryder, Christian Slater. (1989, R, 102 min.) **Celluloid Handbag.** Rebecca Havemayer hosts a two-night run of this sharply humorous but morbid satire of teen cliques (*) @Alamo Ritz, Tuesday & Wednesday, 7:30pm.



Freaky Friday

D: Gary Nelson; with Barbara Harris, Jodie Foster, John Astin, Patsy Kelly. (1977, G, 97 min.) **Kids' Club.** On one weird day in the lives of a Disney mother and daughter, some serious cosmic mojo goes down and they swap bodies. Harris is hilarious as the sophisticated mom whose body is possessed by a slobby 13-year-old, and the film also provides a dead-on take on the traumas of teenage life. (*) @Alamo Lamar, Saturday, 11am; free.



SPECIAL SCREENINGS

BY MARJORIE BAUMGARTEN

FRIDAY 25

Hanksgiving Celebration Master Pancake Theater. Instead of roasting a turkey, these jokesters are roasting the career of Tom Hanks. @Alamo Ritz, 7, 10pm.

✧ **Steve Jobs: The Lost Interview (2011)** *D: Paul Sen. (NR, 70 min.)* In 1995, during the making of his TV series *Triumph of the Nerds* about the birth of the PC, Bob Cringely did a memorable, hour-long interview with Steve Jobs. Recently, a VHS copy was found, cleaned up with modern technology, and put into context by Cringely. @Violet Crown, 11am.

SPACES

It's a Wonderful Life (1946) *D: Frank Capra; with James Stewart, Donna Reed, Lionel Barrymore. (NR, 129 min.)* **Music Forever Music Together.** Free hot dogs, popcorn, and drinks. (*) @Milburn Park (Cedar Park), 5pm; free.

Planes, Trains & Automobiles (1987) *D: John Hughes; with Steve Martin, John Candy. (R, 93 min.)* @Blue Starlite Drive-In II, 7pm.

The Sound of Music Sing-Along (1965) *(NR, 174 min.)* Come dressed as one of your “favorite things” from the movie for a costume parade and contest. @Long Center for the Performing Arts, 1:30, 7pm.

SATURDAY 26

✧ **Freaky Friday (1977)** See p.71.

Hanksgiving Celebration Master Pancake Theater. @Alamo Ritz, 7, 10pm. (See Friday.)

The Rocky Horror Picture Show (1975) *(R, 95 min.)* Austin fans have been dressing up and doing the “Time Warp” thing live for more than three decades. For more info, see www.austinrocky.org. @Alamo Village, 11:55pm.

✧ **Steve Jobs: The Lost Interview (2011)** @Violet Crown, 11am. (See Friday.)

SPACES

Blade Runner (1982) *D: Ridley Scott; with Harrison Ford, Rutger Hauer, Sean Young, Edward James Olmos, M. Emmet Walsh, Daryl Hannah. (R, 117 min.)* @Blue Starlite Drive-In II, 7pm.

SUNDAY 27

Choose Your Own Master Pancake Master Pancake Theater. Bring a DVD of your choice to the show, the audience will select a favorite entry, and Master Pancake will do an instant mockery. @Alamo Lamar, 7pm.

✧ **Inni (2011)** *D: Vincent Morisset. (NR, 74 min.)* The Icelandic band Sigur Rós performs at London's Alexandra Palace. @Alamo Ritz, 10pm.

Lord of the Rings Trilogy Hobbit Feast *(PG-13, 640 min.)* **Food and Film.** Twelve hours, three movies, seven meals. @Alamo Ritz, 11am; sold-out.

The Nightmare Before Christmas Sing-Along (1993) *D: Henry Selick; with the voices of Danny Elfman, Chris Sarandon, Catherine O'Hara, William Hickey. (PG, 73 min.)* **Action Pack.** @Alamo Lake Creek, 7pm.

✧ **Seconds (1966)** See p.70.

✧ **Steve Jobs: The Lost Interview (2011)** @Violet Crown, 11am. (See Friday.)

The Walking Dead TV @ the Alamo. @Alamo Lake Creek, 9pm; Alamo Lamar, 9:10pm.

SPACES

Orgazmo (1997) *D: Trey Parker; with Parker, Matt Stone. (NC-17, 90 min.)* **I Luv Video: CineSundays.** Free. (*) @29th Street Ballroom, 8:30pm.

Welcome (2009) *D: Philippe Lioret; with Firat Ayverdi. (NR, 110 min.)* **World Movie Night.** In this French film, a Kurdish boy from Iraq travels across Europe. @EsquinaTango, 6pm.

MONDAY 28

✧ **ACL Reel Rarities: Loretta Lynn Music Monday.** This *Austin City Limits* episode was recorded in 1983. @Alamo Ritz, 7:30pm.

The Big Lebowski Quote-Along (1998) *(R, 117 min.)* **Action Pack.** @Alamo Lamar, 10:20pm.

✧ **Inni (2011)** @Alamo Ritz, 10:50pm. (See Sunday.)

✧ **A Very Green & Lynch Christmas** Writers/directors Adam Green (*Hatchet, Frozen*) and Joe Lynch (*Wrong Turn 2*) present this special program that contains short films from their horror anthology, *Chillerama*. Also featured will be some crazy film trailers; promos from their upcoming TV show, *Holliston*; clips from the *Knights of Badassdom*; a feature-length slasher film; and give-aways. Proceeds will benefit the American Legion Hall's fund to build an elevator for disabled veterans. @Alamo Ritz, 7pm.

✧ **White Christmas (1954)** *D: Michael Curtiz; with Bing Crosby, Danny Kaye, Rosemary Clooney, Vera-Ellen. (NR, 120 min.)* **Holiday Films.** Whether you're a seasoned regular or a newbie, this Irving Berlin holiday classic about four entertainers falling in love and saving a Vermont inn is essential seasonal froth. @Paramount, 7, 9:30pm.

SPACES

Pee-wee's Big Adventure (1985) *D: Tim Burton; with Paul Reubens. (PG, 90 min.)* **Monday Movies Under the Stars.** Free. (*) @Butterfly Bar at the Vortex, 8pm.

TUESDAY 29

Glee TV at the Alamo. @Alamo Village, 9:45pm.

✧ **Heathers (1989)** See p.71.

✧ **The Palm Beach Story (1942)** See p.70.

✧ **Phantasm (1979)** *D: Don Coscarelli; with Michael Baldwin, Bill Thornbury, Reggie Bannister. (R, 87 min.)* **Terror Tuesday.** This delightfully inventive horror movie seen from the point of view of three kids showcases creepy flying spheres that suck out human brains. @Alamo Ritz, 9:40pm.

SPACES

El Circo (1943) *D: Miguel M. Delgado; with Catinflas, Gloria Lynch. (NR, 90 min.)* **Mario Moreno: Catinflas.** In this comedy, Catinflas joins the circus. @MACC, 7pm; free.

WEDNESDAY 30

Esmerelda NCM Fathom. This is an encore presentation of the Bolshoi Ballet's *Esmeralda*. @Metropolitan, Arbor, Southpark Meadows, Tinseltown North, Cinemark Stone Hill Town Center, Hill Country Galleria, CM Cedar Park, 6:30pm.

Glee TV at the Alamo. @Alamo Village, 9:45pm. (See Tuesday.)

✧ **Heathers (1989)** See p.71.

When Harry Met Sally ... (1989) *D: Rob Reiner; with Billy Crystal, Meg Ryan, Carrie Fisher, Bruno Kirby. (R, 96 min.)* **Girlie Night.** @Alamo Village, 7pm.

✧ **The Working Girls (1974)** See p.70.

SPACES

✧ **Sheer Madness (1983)** *D: Margarethe von Trotta; with Hanna Schygulla, Angela Winkler. (NR, 105 min.)* **Cinema41.** In this German film, a professor of women's literature befriends a shy and possibly disturbed painter to create another of von Trotta's films on the subject of friendship between women. A man, of course, stirs up jealousy. Nancy Schiesari, filmmaker and UT professor, will conduct a Q&A after the screening. @The Hideout Theatre, 7:30pm.



Life, Above All

THURSDAY 1

Die Hard (1988) *D: John McTiernan; with Bruce Willis, Alan Rickman, Bonnie Bedelia. (R, 131 min.)* **Action Pack.** Free cap guns with admission and live explosions in the theatre. (*) @Alamo Ritz, 7pm.

The Nightmare Before Christmas Sing-Along (1993) **Action Pack.** @Alamo Lake Creek, 7pm. (See Sunday.)

Ye-Z in Love Sing-Along Action Pack. @Alamo Ritz, 10:15pm.

SPACES

✧ **The Falls (1980)** *D: Peter Greenaway; with Peter Westley, Aad Wirtz. (NR, 195 min.)* **Austin Film Society: Avant Cinema.** VUE, a “violent, unexplained event,” befalls England in this Greenaway film, which then proceeds to detail the biographies of 92 victims whose surnames begin with the letters F-A-L-L. Birds are perhaps responsible. @Aviary Lounge, 7pm.

✧ **Life, Above All (2011)** *D: Oliver Schmitz; with Khomotoo Manyaka. (PG-13, 100 min.)* **World AIDS Day.** In this South African drama, a township overcomes its fear of AIDS by the example of a courageous young girl. The screening will be followed by a “There Is Hope” discussion. (*) @City Center, 3:30pm.

IMAX

Born To Be Wild (2011) *(G, 40 min.)* Only screening in IMAX theatres, this 3-D film lovingly documents human intervention in the fate of orphaned orangutans and elephants. (*) Fri.-Sat., 11am; Mon.-Thu. (12/1), 1pm.

Happy Feet Two (2011) *D: George Miller; with the voices of Elijah Wood, Robin Williams, Hank Azaria, Alecia “Pink” Moore, Brad Pitt, Matt Damon, Ava Acres, Sofia Vergara, Common, Hugo Weaving, Richard Carter, Anthony LaPaglia. (PG, 100 min.)* See review, p.69. (*) Fri.-Thu. (12/1), 1, 3, 5, 7, 9pm.

Texas: The Big Picture (2003) *D: Scott Swofford; narrated by Colby Donaldson. (NR, 39 min.)* Panoramic shots of Texas grace the screen as the state is shown to be a land capable of producing everything from grapefruit to microchips. Fri.-Sat., 10am; Mon.-Thu. (12/1), 10am.

Tornado Alley (2011) *D: Sean C. Casey. (NR, 43 min.)* *Storm Chasers* star Casey joins the researchers of VORTEX 2 in this effort to capture the origins and evolution of tornadoes in 3-D. Fri.-Sat., noon; Mon.-Thu. (12/1), 2pm

OFFSCREEN

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Cine Las Americas: Call for Entries The Cine Las Americas International Film Festival is accepting submissions for its 15th annual incarnation in the ATX this coming April. They're looking for films made by or about Latinos in the U.S. or the rest of the world and films by or about indigenous groups of the Americas. See website for details. Deadline: Jan. 16, 2012. www.cinelasamericas.org.

Hill Country Film Festival Accepting Submissions The three-day independent film event held in Fredericksburg is now accepting submissions for its third annual festival in April 2012. Indie filmmakers from around the world can submit features, shorts, documentaries, animations, music videos, and 3-D shorts. See website for details. Early deadline: Dec. 2. Regular deadline: Feb. 2, 2012. www.hillcountryff.com.

Screen It Like You Mean It Austin Studios has a state-of-the-art screening room, which is available to the public on a rental basis. Community and indie rates are available for the room, which sports an 18-foot-by-7-foot screen, 28 fixed theatre seats, and a surround-sound system and supports Super 35, 35mm, 16mm, VHS, and DVD formats. Accessible, restrooms – the works. It also has a break room suitable for presentations, meetings, and general cinematic tomfoolery. 322-0145. www.austinstudios.org.

SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The Austin Chronicle is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. **The deadline for the Dec. 9 issue is Monday, Nov. 28.** Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork.

Send submissions to the *Chronicle*, PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765; fax, 458-6910; or email.

Contact Marjorie Baumgarten (Special Screenings): specialscreenings@austinchronicle.com; Wayne Alan Brenner (Offscreen): calendar@austinchronicle.com.

The symbol (*) indicates full-length reviews available online: austinchronicle.com/film.

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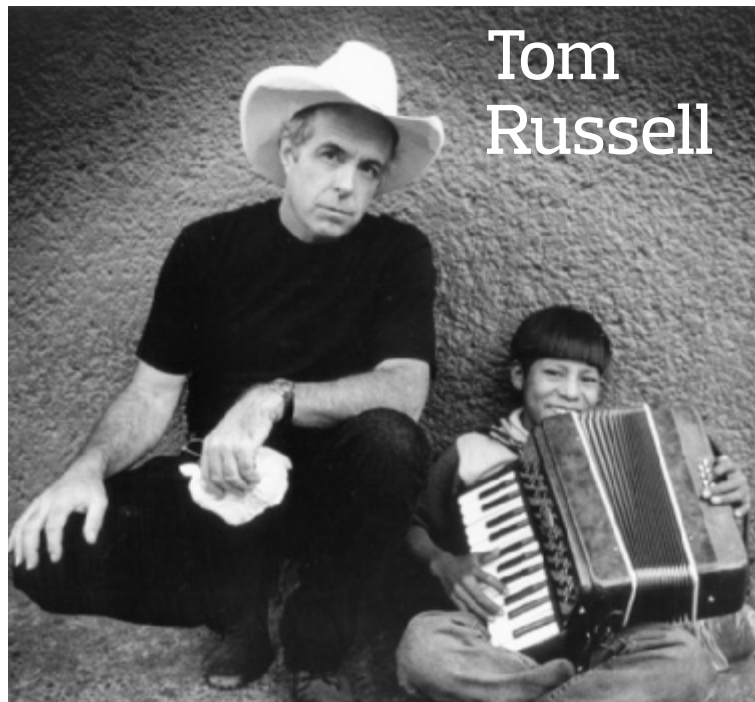
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Tom Russell

SABRINA ARMANI

"I don't need to be in a music scene anymore," says Tom Russell from his home in El Paso. "I like my outsidersness." The master raconteur known for his love of the West moved

to Texas from Brooklyn in 1997.

"The first few years were rough, but now I really dig it," he says. "I've got a painting studio, a place to write, and a lot of room. It feels like I'm living in Mexico, and there's this tremendous history that's going on here. Whatever I come up with is going to come out of me and this place I'm in."

Russell's past two albums have used his Southwestern backdrop to the fullest, even occasionally employing the like-minded members of Calexico as his backing band. *Mesabi*, his latest, features one of his paintings as cover art. Any recent visitor of South Congress' Yard Dog Art Gallery has seen his work on display.

"I started painting in 2003," Russell recalls. "The lady that owned the property before me had an art studio. She didn't do much, but she left a bunch of supplies in there. I walked in one day and started

messing around, painting cows and horses and Indians. It looked like kids' work, but it had a certain thing to it. Randy at Yard Dog picked up on it about six years ago and started selling it."

Other musicians have taken notice as well. Russell's paintings were used on the covers of the latest from Jason Boland as well as that of Red Horse, the folk trio featuring local Eliza Gilkyson.

"I've got another gallery in Santa Fe that sells some of my larger ones," he says. "The good thing is that people that don't know me as a songwriter just walk in off the street and buy paintings. I'm starting to make a separate living off of that."

"I think there's a link between painting and songwriting, a mystical link. You can see a painting every day and not get tired of it. That's similar to a song. You can hear it a lot and get something out of it every day." — Jim Caligiuri

Cactus Cafe, Wednesday 30

WAYNE 'THE TRAIN' HANCOCK

Continental Club, Thursday 24

It's gotten so that Wayne Hancock's Thanksgiving night appearances on South Congress are as traditional as candied yams and green-bean casserole with onion rings. "The Train" is eternally on the road these days, so his annual Dance Your Stuffin' Off party is likely to be the last chance to catch his charming hillbilly boogie this year.

— Jim Caligiuri

THE BAND OF HEATHENS Momo's, Friday 25

The Band of Heathens celebrates five years since the release of debut LP *Live From Momo's* — live from Momo's. In that time, the now-sextet has risen beyond the original loose conglomerate of its Good Time Supper Club in establishing funk-laced roots rock on this year's third studio LP, *Top Hat Crown & the Clapmaster's Son*, which grooves without sacrificing BOH's core songwriting talents. Fellow Momo's regular Drew Smith headlines late.

— Doug Freeman

SONS OF FATHERS Scoot Inn, Saturday 26

Having seen each other around the San Marcos music scene, Paul Cauthen and David Beck met while rambling along the Blanco River just a couple of short years ago. In so doing, they each found in the other a songwriting soul mate. The two native Texans embrace their storytelling heritage on their self-titled debut (see "Texas Platters," p.56), which makes it hard to believe neither of these guys has hit 30 yet. Their harmony-rich, boot-scooty tunes feel so well-worn.

— Melanie Haupt

IMMERSION II [THE CUBE] Salvage Vanguard Theater, Sunday 27

Experimental umbrella Church of the Friendly Ghost takes venue acoustics into a whole new dimension with the Cube. Five Austin sound designers — Thomas Fang, Adam Clark, Jonathan Cash, Christopher Petkus, and Matt Burnett — define different intersections of quadraphonic sound, with visuals projected by Katie Rose Pipkin and Laurel Barickman. Burnett's piece proves the jump-off point for an "immersive space" experience for the audience. Sounds like a bargain at \$5. 8pm.

— Raoul Hernandez

UNEARTH, CHIMAIRA, SKELETONWITCH Emo's East, Tuesday 29

Together, metalcore brands Unearth and Chimaira add up 11 studio LPs since 1998, the former's Massachusetts crew enlisting the help of Killswitch Engage on July's fifth LP, *Darkness in Light*, and Cleveland's Chimaira faring less well on the sex-

ty's *The Age of Hell*. Scene stealers here could be Chimaira's fellow Ohians Skeletonwitch, whose thrash take on the New Wave of British Heavy Metal on the recent *Forever Abomination* rushes headlong at a gallop. Molotov Solution and Killing in Apathy add to the mayhem.

— Raoul Hernandez

BORDER MUSIC: DAVID HIDALGO & MARC RIBOT Bass Concert Hall, Wednesday 30

Don't forget that Los Lobos' co-frontman David Hidalgo slings guitar as lowdown as his East L.A. combo's Hispanic blues. Pair him with six-string John Zorn and Tom Waits mercenary Marc Ribot, a Cuban missile crisis with a guitar pick, plus a backing trio of bass, drums, and keyboards, and sparks will fly. RSVP to jrandel@texasperformingarts.org by Nov. 25 for Ribot's free guitar workshop at Salvage Vanguard Theater on Monday, Tuesday at the Cactus Cafe, KUT's Jody Denberg hosts the free Views & Brews symposium featuring both axemen, 7pm.

— Raoul Hernandez

CROOKED FINGERS Mohawk, Thursday 1

Fresh off this summer's Archers of Loaf reunion tour, gentle giant Eric Bachmann has returned both to his primary creative project and to Merge Records with the October release of *Breaks in the Armor*. Worlds apart from the Archers' eff-you college rock, the sixth full-length by Crooked Fingers comprises warm, expansive, reflective indie rock. Cut in Bachmann's current home base of Athens, Ga., *Breaks* features singer Liz Durrett, whose 2008 album *Outside Our Gates* was produced by Bachmann.

— Melanie Haupt



soundcheck

BY RAOUL HERNANDEZ

THE PETERSON BROTHERS

Continental Club Gallery, Thursday 24

Blues two, youthful and true. 9:30pm.

BETTYSOO

Threadgill's Old No. 1, Friday 25

Match: wood-hewn dining room and finely crafted feminism.

ALEJANDRO ESCOVEDO

Continental Club, Friday 25 & Saturday 26

Someone get Al pal Bruce Springsteen down here to guest slang & rock.

CAROLYN WONDERLAND/ RECKLESS KELLY

Antone's, Saturday 26

Blues mama, 7pm; rodeo rock, 10pm.

SCOTT H. BIRAM

Mohawk, Saturday 26

See "Blood, Sweat & Murder," Oct. 21.

BELLS OF JOY

Threadgill's World Headquarters, Sunday 27

An order of the holy spirit with every hymn. 11am.

MICHAEL MARTIN MURPHEY

Paramount Theater, Tuesday 29

Cowboy Christmas.

ST 37

Beerland, Wednesday 30

Mothership psych, with Miss Moonlight, Spacequake, and Whale Watch.

WILCO

ACL Live at the Moody Theater, Thursday 1

Sold out.

in-stores: Saturday: **Pop Pistol**, the **Great '85**, Trailer Space, 7pm; Tuesday: **Sky Chance**, **Botsy**, Trailer Space, 7pm; Wednesday: **Nazi Gold**, **Foreign Mothers**, Trailer Space, 7pm



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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25 • 10PM
REDD VOLKAERT
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26 • 10PM
THE DRAKES
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28 • 6:30PM
AUSTIN CAJUN ACES
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29 • 7PM
BRENNEN LEIGH
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30
TONY AIROLDI 7PM
THE PEACEMAKERS 10PM

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**RAYLAND
BAXTER**


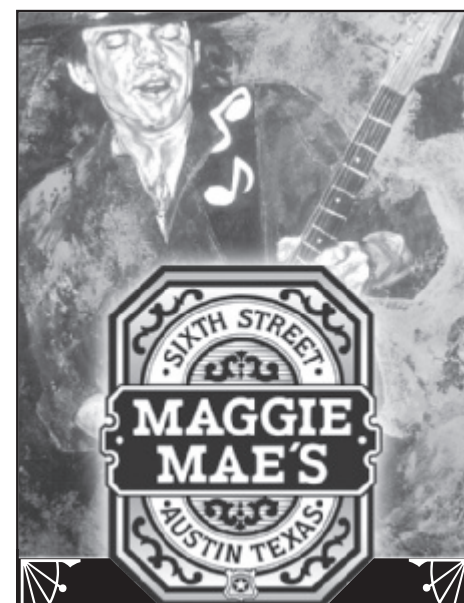
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Wed Nov. 30	Joe Sundell & Melissa Carper 7 pm no cover

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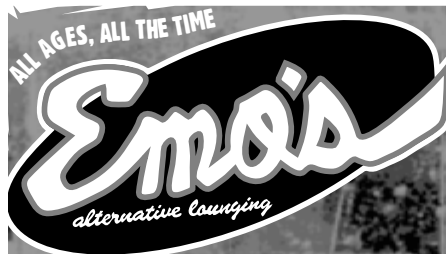
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DETHRONE

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THE BAKER FAMILY
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WHEN DINOSAURS RULED THE EARTH

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11

INSIDE 9PM: **NO CONTROL RADIO & SODA JERK PRESENTS**
BLACK TUSK • MONSTRO • KYNG

MONDAY, DECEMBER 12

INSIDE: **POCKET FISHERMAN**
BABY DICK • TOTAL UNICORN

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13

EAST, 5PM: **SODA JERK PRESENTS**
THRASH AND BURN TOUR
 FEATURING
WINDS OF PLAGUE • CHELSEA GRIN
 AS BLOOD RUNS BLACK • FOR THE FALLEN DREAMS
 UPON A BURNING BODY • IN THE MIDST OF LIONS
 LIKE MOTHS TO A FLAME

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14

INSIDE: DOORS@9PM:
DIXIE WITCH • HONKY • EL PATHOS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15

INSIDE: FREE SHOW! DOORS@9PM:
DEAD END CRUISERS
BULEMICS • THE MOTARDS
THE CHUMPS • JESUS CHRIST SUPERFLY

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16

INSIDE: DOORS@9PM:
MAN OR ASTROMAN?
FUCKEMOS • THIGHMASTER • CUNTO

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17

INSIDE: DOORS@9PM:
AGONY COLUMN
FLASH BOYS • BLUNT FORCE TRAUMA
CLUTCH

EAST: DOORS@8PM:



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DEC 21 - SHURMAN
DEC 23 - VALLEJO XMAS BASH
DEC 29 - JONATHAN TYLER
& NORTHERN LIGHTS
DEC 31 - GARY CLARK, JR.
JAN 14 - REV. HORTON HEAT
JAN 20 - TOASTERS
JAN 27 - GOURDS
FEB 21 - MATTHEW GOOD
W/EMILY GREEN (C3CONCERTS.COM)
MARCH 13 - BAND OF SKULLS W/WE ARE
AUGUSTINES (C3CONCERTS.COM)

THU 24 NOV
THE SCABS
DAHEBEGEBEES



DOORS: 9PM

FRI 25 NOV
MARCIA BALL



DOORS: 7PM

FRI 25 NOV
LUKAS NELSON
& THE PROMISE
OF THE REAL
REVOLTAIRE



DOORS: 9:30PM

SAT 26 NOV
CAROLYN WONDERLAND



DOORS: 7PM

SAT 26 NOV
RECKLESS KELLY



ZACH WALTHER BAND
DOORS: 9PM

SUN 27 NOV
SUN RECORDS
SUNDAY



THE DERAILERS
DOORS: 6PM • FREE

TUE 29 NOV
BLUE TUESDAY
WITH
DEREK O'BRIEN

AND
MALFORD MILLIGAN
PLUS
MIKE FLANIGIN
PUBLIC SOUL



DOORS: 7PM

WED 30 NOV
TAB BENOIT



MORELAND & ARBUCKLE
JEFF HAYES & THE LUCKY FOOLS
DOORS: 8PM

THU 1 DEC
THAT DAMNED BAND



ERIK HOKKANEN
THE ATOMIC DUO
DOORS: 8PM

FRI 2 DEC
THE SMUGGLER'S
ANNUAL
CHRISTMAS BASH



LEADERS OF THE GANG

SAT 3 DEC
BODEANS
FASTBALL
GREATCOATS



DOORS: 9PM

TUE 6 DEC
SODA JERK PRESENTS:
THE WAILERS



DUANE STEPHENSON
DUB GIDEON
DOORS: 9PM

WED 7 DEC
NOT IN THE FACE



FACELESS WEREWOLVES

DOORS: 8PM

FRI 9 DEC
SODA JERK PRESENTS:
ZECHS MARQUISE



EQUALS
PARKING

DOORS: 9PM

SAT 10 DEC
JASON BOLAND
EVAN FELKER



ACOUSTIC
TOUR

DOORS: 10PM

SAT 10 DEC
PAUL THORN



DOORS: 7PM

MON 12 DEC
SODA JERK PRESENTS:
BORN OF OSIRIS



VEIL OF MAYA
CARNIFEX • STRUCTURES
BETRAYING THE MARTYRS
DOORS: 6:30PM

WED 14 DEC
HELLO LOVERS



FRI 16 DEC
WHITE GHOST SHIVERS
CD RELEASE PARTY



WHISKEY SHIVERS
EAST SIDE DANDIES
DOORS: 8PM

SAT 17 DEC
CHARLIE ROBISON

WILL SEXTON BAND



DOORS: 8PM

The Austin Chronicle

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CLUB LISTINGS

THURSDAY 11/24

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery:
The Peterson Bros., Tameca Jones (8:30); In the Club: Wayne "The Train" Hancock's Thanksgiving Show (10:00)

THE DRISKILL HOTEL Driskill Bar: The Atomic Duo (7:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Albanie & Her Fellas (6:00), Jon Blondell Quintet (9:30)

ELYSIUM Thanksgiving Escape w/ DJ Cos

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Open Mic w/ Lisa Kettyle (8:00) A

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Alvin Crow (9:00)

MOHAWK The American Spirit (5:00)

MOMO'S Jason Blum, Betty Black

ONE 2 ONE BAR Candiland, Natalie Zoe (9:00)

PLUSH Fiction, FBOM, Mez Data

THE RED ROOSTER Rockin' Steve

ROADHOUSE Mojo Jam

RUTA MAYA Acoustic Jam (4:00) A

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE Jeff Lofton (7:00)

SAXON PUB Eightysixed (6:00), W.C. Clark (10:00)

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL The Space Rockers

TRIPLE CROWN Molly J. Hayes (6:00)

VOLSTEAD LOUNGE The Shake (10:00)

FRIDAY 11/25

AMAYA'S TACO VILLAGE Johnny Gonzales (5:00)

ARTZ RIB HOUSE The Better Halves A

AZUL TEQUILA MEXICAN RESTAURANT Mariachi Relampago (8:00) A

BEERLAND Precious Blood, El Pathos, John Wesley Coleman, Ralph White & Walter Daniels A

'BOUT TIME DJ Element

BROKEN SPOKE Dance Lessons, Gary P. Nunn

BUDDY'S PLACE Son Geezinslaw, Glenn Collins (8:00)

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Boat Roaches (7:00)

CEDAR STREET Trent Durham (6:00)

CENTRAL MARKET NORTH Cienfuegos (6:30) A

CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH Datri Bean (6:30) A

CHUGGIN' MONKEY Guilty Pleasures (9:00)

CONANS PIZZA Matt "Blue Cat" Ferrel (6:30) A

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery:
Robert Kraft Trio, Mike Flanigin Trio w/ Frosty (8:30); In the Club: The Blues Specialists (6:30); Alejandro Escovedo, the Mother Truckers (10:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station Masters

DOWN UNDER DELI Nikki Jensen (8:00) A

THE DRISKILL HOTEL The Driskill Bar: Robert Caldwell (6:00), JWW & the Prospectors (9:00)

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Scotty B. Trio (8:00) A

EL SOL Y LA LUNA Mariachi Tamazula (8:00) A

ELEPHANT ROOM Red Young Quintet

ELYSIUM Calhoun, Bobby Hass, Tom Colantonio A

EMO'S Lower Class Brats, the Queens (9:00) A A

FAIR BEAN COFFEE Open Mic w/ Amy Zamarripa (5:00)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Wild Bill & the Lost Knobs (6:00) A

FRANK Son de Rey, Este Vato (9:30) A

FREDDIE'S PLACE Too Blue (6:00) A

GIDDY UPS Roy Heinrich & the Pickups (9:00)

GRUENE HALL Doug Moreland (1:00), Bob Schneider (8:00) A

ROADSHOWS

November

FRI 25

El Pathos, Beerland
Nikki Jensen, Down Under Deli
Tom Colantonio, Elysium
The Queens, Emo's
Andy Hendrix & the Skwaarmalar Machine, Red 7
Dimitri's Ascent, Stubb's

SAT 26

Flesh & Layzie Bone, Queen Ching, G'sta, Emo's East
Adam Johnson, Freddie's Place
Joe Buck, Mohawk
The Really Rottens, White Swan Lounge

SUN 27

Cabra, Red 7

TUE 29

Boone Jones Graham, Beerland
David Hidalgo & Marc Ribot, Cactus Cafe
Encore, Cedar Street
Miss Melvis, Continental Club
Chimaira, Uneath, Skeletonwitch, Molotov Solution, Emo's East
Big Don, Home Slice Pizza
Lusitania, Jamestown Revival, Mohawk
Michael Martin Murphey, Paramount Theatre
He's My Brother, She's My Sister, Stubb's

WED 30

David Hidalgo & Marc Ribot, Bass Concert Hall
Whale Watch, Beerland
Tom Russell, Cactus Cafe
Problem Child, Gauche, Mohawk
Justin Black, Momo's

December

THU 1

Wilco, Nick Lowe, ACL Live at the Moody Theater
Beau Jennings, Frank
Crooked Fingers, Strand of Oaks, Mohawk
Bamako Airlines, Momo's
Neverwas, Red 7
The Devil Makes 3, Brown Bird, Stubb's

See
austinchronicle.com
for complete listings.

LISTINGS ARE FREE AND PRINTED ON A SPACE AVAILABLE BASIS. ACTS ARE LISTED CHRONOLOGICALLY. SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE, SO CALL CLUBS TO CONFIRM LINEUPS. START TIMES ARE PROVIDED WHERE KNOWN AND ARE PM UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS: MUSIC LISTINGS DEADLINE IS MONDAY MORNINGS, 9AM, FOR THAT WEEK'S ISSUE, PUBLISHED ON THURSDAY. PLEASE INDICATE ROADSHOWS AND RESIDENCIES. SEND VENUE NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER, ACTS, AND START TIMES

TO: CLUB LISTINGS, PO BOX 49066, AUSTIN, TX 78765; FAX, 458-6910; PHONE, 454-5766 X159; EMAIL, clubs@austinchronicle.com.

AUSTIN BANDS: WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU. IF YOU HAVEN'T REGISTERED AND UPLOADED YOUR MP3S TO THE MUSICIANS REGISTER, GO TO AUSTINCHRONICLE.COM/REGISTER. ANYWHERE YOUR BAND IS MENTIONED, YOUR MUSIC WILL BE FEATURED.

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CONTINENTAL CLUB

COMING SOON...
12/9 WELCOME! HOT ROD REVOLUTION
DAVE ALVIN & THE GUILTY ONES
THE LEROI BROTHERS

12/10 THE PALADINS
THE BLUE DOTS

THUR NOV 24
DOORS OPEN AT 9PM
DANCE YER STUFFIN' OFF
WAYNE HANCOCK
"THE TRAIN"
FRI & SAT NOV 25 & 26
THE MOTHER TRUCKERS
2ND ANNUAL THANKSGIVING
WEEKEND WITH...
TWO BIG NIGHTS! THE MOTHER TRUCKERS

AND ALEJANDRO ESCOVEDO AND THE SENSITIVE BOYS
FRIDAY 12AM
SATURDAY 10PM

12/11 ALEJANDRO ESCOVEDO
FRIDAY 10PM
SATURDAY 12AM

SATURDAY
MATINEE DOORS AT 3PM
REDD VOLKAERT
SUNDAY NOV 27
DOORS AT 6:30 SHOW AT 7:30PM
JUNIOR BROWN
AND THE LOVELY TANYA RAE
7:30PM

HEYBALE WITH REDD VOLKAERT, EARL POOLE BALL PLUS DALLAS WAYNE
10PM

UPSTAIRS IN THE GALLERY
THU 10:30 THE FINEST KIND
8:30 THE PETERSON BROS.
FRI - SAT - SUN 10:30 MIKE FLANIGIN'S B-3 TRIO
FRI & SAT W/ DENNY FREEMAN & FROSTY
SUN W/ JAKE LANGLEY & KYLE THOMPSON
FRI 8:30 ROBERT KRAFT TRIO
SAT 8:30PM STEVE BERNAL'S ZODIAC

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MONDAY NOV 28
H. H. ADAM JOHNSON & THE PAY ME'S
10PM DALE WATSON AND HIS LONESTARS

TUESDAY NOV 29
H. H. 6:30PM TONI PRICE
12AM MISS MELVIS
10PPM ALEJANDRO ESCOVEDO & THE SENSITIVE BOYS

WEDNESDAY NOV 30
H. H. BORDERTOWN BOOTLEGGERS
12AM JAMES McMURTRY

THURSDAY DEC 1
H. H. ELECTRIC PLANET
12AM BARFIELD THE TYRANT OF TEXAS FUNK! FLY JACK

FRIDAY DEC 2
H. H. 6:30PM THE LEGENDARY BLUES SPECIALISTS
12AM MOJO NIXON'S BOBBLEHEAD TOUR
10PM DASH RIP ROCK
8PM Pat Martino ADVANCED TICKETS

SATURDAY DEC 3
MATINEE DOORS AT 3PM REDD VOLKAERT
8:30PM MODERN DON JUANS
9:45PM JD McPHERSON
11:15PM MARTI BROM
12:30AM MAC CURTIS

GALLERY OPENS AT 8:00PM
SUN 8:30 JON DEE & FRIEND SHOW
W/ KATHY McCARTY
MON 12AM ANTHONY FARRELL TRIO
10:30 AFROFREQUE
8:30 BEN LIVINGSTON
TUE 10:30 THE EPHRAIM OWENS EXPERIENCE
8:30 JAMES McMURTRY
WED 10:30 TRUBE, FARRELL & SNIZZ
8:30 THE BARBARA K. HOUR
MIKE HARDWICK & HECTOR MUNOZ

Frank

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FRI 25 NOV **GSME SHOWCASE : ESTE VATO**
Doors 9:30PM \$6.00 All Ages
Son De Ray & Changoman

SAT 26 NOV **THE BELLFURIES**
Doors 9:30PM \$6.00 All Ages
The Horton Brothers

WED 30 NOV **THE BETA RHYTHM**
Doors 9:30PM \$6.00 All Ages
Lola Cola & The Sweet Nuthin

THU 01 DEC **LITTLE BRAVE**
Doors 9:30PM \$6.00 All Ages
Holiday & Beau Jennings

FRI 02 DEC **THE SOLDIER THREAD (ACOUSTIC)**
Doors 9:00PM \$6.00 All Ages
Dean Stafford & Jack Thornton

SAT 03 DEC **SOUL TRACK MIND**
Doors 9:30PM \$8.00 All Ages
Sheer Khan

THU 08 DEC **KNIGHT**
Doors 9:30PM \$6.00 All Ages
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FRI 11/25 RYAN ROONEY, THE FLYING
BALALAIKA BROTHERS, VANA MAZI

SAT 11/26 **ZOUMOUNTCHI**

MON 11/28 **THE MOELLER BROTHERS**

TUE 11/29 **MOOSE TONGUE TEXTURE**
BLUES NIGHT

WED 11/30 **LONG TALL EDDIE**

THU 12/1 **OCOTE SOUL, HARDPROOF AFROBEAT**

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THU, NOV 24 **CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING**

FRI, NOV 25 8-9PM DANCE LESSONS
9:15PM **GARY P. NUNN**

SAT, NOV 26 8-9PM DANCE LESSONS
9:30PM **DALE WATSON**

TUE, NOV 29 6-8PM
8PM **DEBRA PETERS**
WELDON HENSON

WED, NOV 30 6-8PM
8-9PM **BILLY GARZA**
DANCE LESSONS
CHAPARRAL
W/ **JEFF HUGHES**

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FROM FRIDAY

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Los
Flames (6:30)

INTERCONTINENTAL STEPHEN
F. AUSTIN Danielle Reich
(5:30)

KICK BUTT COFFEE DJ Bee
(9:00) A

LATITUDE 30 Los Jefes (5:30)

LUCKY LOUNGE Run Amp,
Hunters & Gatherers J
(6:00)

LUCY'S RETIRED SURFERS BAR
& **RESTAURANT** In the Pink
(9:00)

MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Leeann
Atherton (7:00) A

MEAN-EYED CAT Shinyribs
(9:00)

MOMO'S The Band of
Heathens, Drew Smith

NEWORLDEL Radiola

PAPI TINO'S Angelo Lembesis,
DJ Patrick (6:00)

PLUSH Sloppy Jackson (10:00)

POODIE'S HILLTOP
ROADHOUSE Owen Temple
(4:00); Paula Nelson, James
Hand J (8:00) A

POODLE DOG LOUNGE Fat Dog
(9:00)

RED 7 Andy Hendrix & the
Skwaarmalar Machine, R.
Lee Dockery, Smokey Emery,
Messy Sparkles (8:00) A

THE RED ROOSTER Manipura

RILEY'S TAVERN Jeremy
Steding J (9:00)

ROADHOUSE Henry Crafts &
the Austin T band

SAM'S TOWN POINT Classic
Rock Open Jam w/ Breck
English (9:00)

CLUB LISTINGS

SATELLITE BISTRO & BAR Rich
Harney (7:00)

SAXON PUB Earl Poole Ball
& the Cosmic Americans
(6:00); White Ghost Shivers,
Van Wilks (9:00)

SHENANIGANS Shuffle Up &
Deal

**SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB &
GRILL** The Max

SKINNY'S BALLROOM Vanagen,
So Long Problems, Dirt
Bikes, Tody Castillo

STARDUST CLUB Sam Bentley

STUBB'S Dimitri's Ascent
(9:00) A

TEXAS MIST DJ Joe Hernandez
(9:00)

THREADGILL'S NORTH
BettySoo A

III FORKS Ken Slavin (7:00) A

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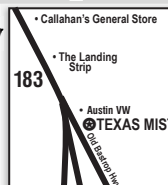
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Fri 8:30PM-2AM	DJ DOMENICK
Sat 8:30PM-2AM	DJ ALEX
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SUN
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MON
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BOTTLES OF WINE

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4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27				

Coming

DECEMBER

1

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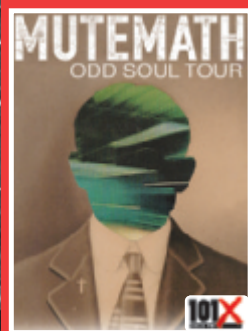
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FRI JAN 27



SAT FEB 18



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SAT MAR 3



FRI MAR 23



SUN MAR 25



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SUN NOV 27 11AM & 1PM

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TUE NOV 29 DOORS 9PM

HE'S MY BROTHER, SHE'S MY SISTER

WITH THE SWEET NUTHIN'

THU DEC 1 DOORS 8PM

THE DEVIL MAKES THREE

WITH BROWN BIRD

FRI DEC 2 DOORS 9PM

MYNAMEISJOHNMICHAEL WITH BOY

SAT DEC 3 DOORS 9PM

WILL HOGE

WITH JOSH HOGE AND REED TURNER

SUN DEC 4 DOORS 10:30PM

101X INDEPENDENT WORKFORCE XMAS WITH

SPEAK, UME

AND SOLIDER THREAD

INSIDE AFTER CAKE *MUST HAVE TICKET FROM CAKE

TUE DEC 6 DOORS 8PM

HAAM CORPORATE BATTLE OF THE BANDS WINNERS

THE IDEUCE! & THE CIRROS

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FRI DEC 9 DOORS 9:30PM

AQUAJONES

WITH THE DRY SEASON, LIVE LIGHTS

AND TOM MELANCON

SAT DEC 10 DOORS 11PM

DAVID RAMIREZ

WITH HIS BAND WITH WILD CHILD

CALENDAR

» OUTSIDE SHOW

» INSIDE SHOW

12-13* HURT
THE ACOUSTIC PERFORMANCE

12-15* GRIEVES & BUDD
W/K.FLAY AND THE BREAKLITES

12-16* SOUNDS UNDER RADIO

2-10* REBELUTION
W/THE GREEN AND PEP LOVE

FROM FRIDAY

TRIPLE CROWN Mark Jungers (6:00); The Sonomatics, Turbo 350, Crystal Creek Boys, the Lonesome Heroes (9:00)

29TH STREET BALLROOM Rhizome Collective Benefit w/ Magnetar, Dame Moneda, Souliotes, Huerta Culture, Gente Boa, Wino Vino, Son Armado, Las Krudas (6:00)

VOLSTEAD LOUNGE The Boogie (10:00)

SATURDAY 16

AMAYA'S TACO VILLAGE Johnny Gonzales (5:00)

ANTONE'S Carolyn Wonderland, Reckless Kelly (8:00) A

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Jerry Sires A

BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL The Hi-Defs A

BEERLAND Creamers, Criaturas, Ruleta Rusa (9:00)

BLACKERBY VIOLIN SHOP Anna Mae Mitchell & G. Pat Harris (7:00)

'BOUT TIME DJ Element (9:00)

BROKEN SPOKE Dance Lessons, Dale Watson

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Elvis Recycled (7:00)

CEDAR STREET Jordan Tanner (6:00)

CENTRAL MARKET NORTH Jeff Lofton Quartet J (6:30) A

CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH JWW & the Prospectors (6:30) A

CHUGGIN' MONKEY Tish & Misbehavin' (9:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Steve Bernal's Zodiac, Mike Flanigin Trio w/ Frosty (8:30); In the Club: Redd Volkaert (3:00); Alejandro Escovedo, the Mother Truckers (10:00)

DIZZY ROOSTER Gary Lee Cox (8:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Albert & Gage

DOWN UNDER DELI Todd Westbrook (8:00)

THE DRISKILL HOTEL Patricia G. (8:00)

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Bruce James Soultet (7:30) A

EL SOL Y LA LUNA Mary Welch y los Curanderos (8:00) A

ELEPHANT ROOM Brannen Temple

EMO'S Tactics, This Will Destroy You (9:00) A

EMO'S EAST G'sta, Queen Ching, Flesh & Layzie Bone (9:00) A

FREDDIE'S PLACE Adam Johnson (6:00) R A

CLUB LISTINGS

GIDDY UPS Jason Arnold & the Stepsiders (9:00)

GRUENE HALL Hayes Carll (9:00) A

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Trent Turner & the Moontowers (6:30)

HILL'S CAFE Drew Fish A

LATITUDE 30 Los Jefes (5:30)

LONG CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS Wildfire Relief Benefit w/ Omar & the Howlers, Fastball, Owen Temple, Vitera, Guy Forsyth, Frank Gomez J, Malford Milligan, John Gaar, Miss Lavelle White, Johnny Nicholas (2:00)

LUCKY LOUNGE DJ Spyda, DJ Cruces

MAGGIE MAE'S Jeff Banks (7:00)

MEAN-EYED CAT Two Hoots & a Holler (9:00)

MOHAWK Molley Gene, Joe Buck, Scott H. Biram (8:00) R

MOMO'S Tody Castillo, Wendy Colonna, Dan Dyer J

NEWORLDEL Mark Viator & Susan Maxey

NORTH BY NORTHWEST RESTAURANT & BREWERY Stephen Doster & Bill Carter A

ONE 2 ONE BAR Courtney Sanchez, Baby Atlas (9:00)

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ALEX ROXX

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RED EYED FLY-ALL AGES-\$10 ADMISSION

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W.C. CLARK

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eric tessmer

12AM \$10



FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25

THE WHITE GHOST SHIVERS

9PM \$15 Adv/\$15 Day Of

Van Wilks

11:30PM \$10

No Cover Happy Hour 6PM

CARL POOLE BALL AND THE COSMIC AMERICANS

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26

Patrice Pike

11PM \$12 Adv/\$15 Day Of

GUY
FORSYTH

8PM \$10 Adv/\$12 Day Of



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27

THE RESENTMENTS

with Bruce and Scrappy 7:30PM \$7

Bobby Whitlock
& Coco Carmel

6PM \$10

John Evans

10:30PM \$5

Hunter McKithan
and the Offenders

12:30AM \$5

Jerry Kirk

3PM No Cover

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28

LONELYLAND

WITH BOB SCHNEIDER

8:30PM \$10

John Pointer

7PM \$10

THE LEAVERS

11PM \$10

Rob Baird

10PM \$5

Bruce Hughes

& the All Nude Army 8:30PM \$5

Grady Skelton

12AM \$5

No Cover Happy Hour David Grissom 6PM

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

WALT WILKINS
& THE MYSTIQUEROS

9PM \$10

JASON ALLEN

11PM \$8

Paul Nunn

12:30AM \$5

No Cover Happy Hour The Nortons 6PM

COMING UP
Dec. 1st - Johnny Nicholas
Dec. 1st - Hector Ward
Dec. 2nd - Deadman
Dec. 8th - Charlie Mars
Dec. 9th - Joe Ely



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THURSDAY - 11/24
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THANKSGIVING!**
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FRIDAY - 11/25
4:30pm - Dillon Havins
5:30pm - B. Sterling
8:30pm - Bayou Black
9:15pm - Southbound Drive
10:30pm - The Blues Posse

SATURDAY - 11/26
3:00pm - M.J. Torrance
5:15pm - Barry Sell
6:30pm - Red Dirt Rebellion
8:15pm - Deb E Dee and the Kimamas
9:15pm - Treetop Sailors
10:30pm - Tex Edwards
11:45pm - Tempo Tantrums

SUNDAY - 11/27
1:30pm - Majestic Revelation
3:30pm - Don Turnley Shotgun House
6:00pm - Kole Hansen
9:15pm - These Fine Moments
10:30pm - Jason Ludwig

TUESDAY - 11/29
5:30pm - Jerry Kirk
8:00pm - Jodi Adair
10:15pm - Danny Phillips

WEDNESDAY - 11/30
4:00pm - Bruce Smith
8:00pm - Jodi Adair & Special Guest
10:15pm - Greg Loftus

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26 9PM
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GUNTO • THE FLOOD

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RALPH WHITE
BLAKE MACKEY
LARRY OHMS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4 6PM
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THURSDAY 11.24

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

FRIDAY 11.25

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SATURDAY 11.26

DYSFUNKSHUN JUNKSHUN
Terrace59 | DJ KB
Kabaret | Video DJ

SUNDAY 11.27

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MONDAY 11.28

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WEDNESDAY 11.30

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THURSDAY 12.1

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

FRIDAY 11.2

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SATURDAY 12.3

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Kabaret | Video DJ

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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23

BROTHERS OF CASTLE

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25

GHOST ALONG
THE BRAZOS

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26

HIGH DEFS

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27

OPEN MIC NIGHT

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

TRIVIA TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

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FROM SATURDAY

PAPI TINO'S Solo2, Atlas Maior (6:00)

THE PARISH Federal! State! Local! ♪, Waldo & the Naturals, the LaRues, MaryAnn & the Revival Band ♪ (8:00)

PLUSH Kid Slyce, DJ Digg, DJ Crown

POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Randy Pavlock, W.C. Clark (6:00) **A**

POODLE DOG LOUNGE Fat Dog (9:00), M.L. Frank (9:00)

THE RED ROOSTER Lou Dog
RILEY'S TAVERN The Grackles (9:00)

RUTA MAYA Gypsy Song Swap (7:00) **A**

SATELLITE BISTRO & BAR Ava Arenella (7:00)

SAXON PUB Guy Forsyth, Patrice Pike (8:00)

THE SCOOT INN Sons of Fathers (9:00)

SFC FARMERS' MARKET AT SUNSET VALLEY Nicolette Good ♪ (10:00am)

SFC FARMERS' MARKET DOWNTOWN Vanessa Lively ♪ (10:00am)

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL The Max

SKINNY'S BALLROOM Georgette, Borriskane, Honey Son

STARDUST CLUB B.R.K.

TEXAS MIST DJ Spinner (8:30)

THE THIRSTY NICKEL Guilty Pleasures (9:00)

III FORKS Blue Mist (7:00) **A**

THRICE Jan Seides ♪ (7:00)

TRAILER SPACE RECORDS The Great '85, Pop Pistol (7:00) **A**

TRIPLE CROWN The Organics, Ghosts of Dixie, Robert McCartney (10:00)

VOLSTEAD LOUNGE DJ Orion (10:00)

WHITE SWAN LOUNGE Rhett & Dean ♪, the Really Rottens, Smithers (10:00) **R**

SUNDAY

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Eddie Collins (6:30) **A**

BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Open Mic w/ Justif (7:00) **A**

BB ROVERS Open Mic (7:00) **A**
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Irish Tunes Session (9:00)

BLUE MOON ROCK & BLUES BAR Kevin & the Krawlers (8:00)

'BOUT TIME A.J. Kline (8:00)

CEDAR STREET The Initials (7:00), Much Love (8:00)

CHUGGIN' MONKEY Wigeon Holland (9:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Jon Dee Graham, Kathy McCarty; Mike Flanigin Trio w/ Jake Langley (8:30); In the Club: Junior Brown & Tanya Rae (7:00), Heybale! (10:00)

COTTON CLUB Can't Hardly Playboyz (7:00) **A**

DIZZY ROOSTER Jo Hell (8:00)

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kris Kimura Quartet (7:00) **A**

EL SOL Y LA LUNA Toni Price, Tardeada Familiar (5:00) **A**

ELEPHANT ROOM Kevin Lovejoy Trio

ELYSIUM Regression w/ DJ Pumpkinspice, DJ Boba Fett, DJ Minimus

FREDDIE'S PLACE Rosie & the Ramblers (6:00) **A**

GREEN PASTURES RESTAURANT Jacques Vilmain (11:00am) **A**

GRUENE HALL Warren Hood & the Goods (12:30), Matt Skinner (4:00) **A**

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Chicken Strut (3:00)

HOUSE WINE Justin Landers (6:00)

KICK BUTT COFFEE AT THE TRIANGLE Ted Hall's Blues Church & Jam (8:00)

LUCKY LOUNGE Carver (9:00)

MEAN-EYED CAT Lucas Hudgins & the First Cousins (7:30)

MOHAWK Quin Galavais, She Sir ♪, Tracy Shedd, Follow That Bird (9:00)

MOMO'S Tara Craig, Beckham Bros., Warren Hood & the Goods, King Biscuit

NUTTY BROWN CAFE Java Jazz (11:00am) **A**

ONE WORLD THEATRE Alyse Black (7:00) **A**

PAPI TINO'S Kiko Villamizar (11:00am)

POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Tessa Lou Williams (3:00) **A**

RED 7 Broken Umbrella Academy, the Window Silhouette, Cabra **A**

RED EYED FLY Feels Like Home (8:00)

RUTA MAYA Salsa Lessons, Timbas Del Norte (8:00) **A**

SALVAGE VANGUARD THEATER Immersion Two [The Cube] w/ Thomas Fang, Adam Clark, Jonathan Cash, Christopher Petkus, Matt Burnett (8:00)

SATELLITE BISTRO & BAR Dan Earhart (11:30am)

SAXON PUB Bobby Whitlock & CoCo Carmel, the Resentments, John Evans, Hunter McKithan

SPEAKEASY Adam Rodgers (10:00)

ST. DAVID'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH Kanude (11:00am) **A**

THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ The Bells of Joy (11am), Adam Hood (8:00) **A**

TRIPLE CROWN Open Mic w/ Grant Ewing, Holly Aiken, Nate Hinds

Z'TEJAS Salud (6:00)

MONDAY

ANTONE'S Austin Blues Society (8:00) **A**

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Sarah Elizabeth Campbell & the Banned (7:30) **A**

BAR 141 Robbie's Open Mic (9:00)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Open Mic (7:00)

'BOUT TIME A.J. Kline (9:00)

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Schedule of Official Austin Shop Crawl Community Events

ASC After Party – A Night at the Cabana
hosted by Tacos and Tequila (TnT).
Friday, Nov. 25th. 9:00 pm to 2:00 am

Christmas in New York:
Austin's First Children's Fashion Show (Family Fun/Safe)

Saturday, November 26th
from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM
in the Pavilion at NXNW Restaurant.
FREE Pictures w/ Santa

Merry Movie
Night Under the Stars: A Christmas Story

Friday, December 2, 2011 from 6:00 PM to 11:00 PM

E-Holiday Bazaar & Concert benefiting Toys for Tots Austin

Saturday, December 3rd from Noon – 11:00 pm at Fiesta Gardens. FREE Pictures w/ Santa.

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CHERYL MURDOCK 6:30

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DUSTIN WELCH 12

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BAND OF HEATHENS 10

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SATURDAY NOV 26 \$10

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WENDY COLONNA 8:30

DAN DYER 10

GEORGE DEVORE 12:15

SUNDAY NOV 27 \$7

TARA CRAIG 6:30

BECKHAM BROTHERS 8

WARREN HOOD 10

& THE GOODS 9:30 \$7

KING BISCUIT 12

MONDAY NOV 28 \$5

WILLIAM KELLY NO COVER HAPPY HOUR 5:15

HAILEY TUCK 6:30 **AMY ANNELLE** 8

BOESSI KREH DOES THE SONGS OF NICK CAVE 7:30

RUSSELL BEACH & THE STEPCHILDREN 11

JAMES BULLARD 12

TUESDAY NOV 29 \$5

JAZZ HAPPY HOUR AUSTIN KIMBLE TRIO \$5:30

WELL T. MASSEY 8

MOMOS SONGWRITER SERIES

SARAH SHARP, DREW SMITH,

GRAHAM WILKINSON, JON BECKHAM 9:30

MENUS NED 12

WEDNESDAY NOV 30 \$5

JUSTIN BLACK NO COVER HAPPY HOUR 5:15

HANNAH MCLENDON 6:30

SONS OF FATHERS 8

CACTUS FUZZ 7:30

LITTLE BRAVE 10:45

CLAYTON COLVIN BAND 12

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2 P JOSH BUCKEY
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4:30 MIKE JUNE

Fri, Nov 25

FRIDAY NIGHT SUPPER CLUB
8 KEM WATTS
10 JEFF WARREN JOHNSTON

Sat, Nov 26

SATURDAY NIGHT SHOWCASE
7:30 NORTHPOINT
10 LEIGH EVIN MCCULLOUGH

Sun, Nov 27

7:30 MARSHALL HOOD & THE BADS

Mon, Nov 28

7-9 LISA KETTYLE OPEN MIC

Wed, Nov 30

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Friday November 25th

PAULA NELSON 9pm \$10
BRIAN POUNDS 11:30pm \$5

OWEN TEMPLE
Happy Hour 4PM No Cover

Saturday November 26th

WC CLARK 8:30PM \$10
RANDY PAULOCK AND 24-7 6PM \$10
THE GODFATHER
NAVASOTA STRING BAND 12AM \$5

Sunday November 27th No Cover
TESSY LOU WILLIAMS & THE SHOTGUN STARS 3-7PM

Monday November 28th No Cover
Texas Songwriter Showcase 6:30PM
WC JAMESON with RICHARD DOBSON
BRACKEN HALE 10PM
Monday Night is Steak Night!!

Tuesday November 29th No Cover
JOHN INMON 8:30PM
BRIAN POUNDS & BEVERLY HENSLEY 6PM
WAKE EASTMAN HAPPY HOUR 4PM

Wednesday November 30th No Cover
No Bad Days Open Mic with
BB MORSE 8PM
ASHLEY MONICAL HAPPY HOUR 4PM

NO BAD DAYS

• Happy Hour M-F 4-7 •

COMING UP

12/2 **OMAR & THE HOWLERS**

12/17 **JEFF STRAHAN**

12/3 **JAKE KELLEN**

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CLUB LISTINGS

FROM MONDAY

CEDAR STREET Matt Wilson Band (9:00)

CHEZ ZEE Rich Demarco (6:30) A

CHUGGIN' MONKEY Stewart Mann & the Statesboro Revue (9:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Ben Livingston & the "That's What She Said!" Boys, Afrofreque (8:30); In the Club: Adam Johnson & the Pay Me's (6:30), Dale Watson & His Lone Stars (10:00)

DIZZY ROOSTER Tish & Misbehavin' (8:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Chris Gage

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kris Kimura Quartet (7:00) A

ELEPHANT ROOM Michael Mordecai's Jazz Jam (9:30)

EVANGELINE CAFE Charles Thibodeaux & the Austin Cajun Aces (6:30) A

GIDDY UPS Mark Allen Atwood (7:00)

GRUENE HALL Bret Graham (6:00) A

HALCYON World Music Jam w/ Roberto Riggio (10:00) A

THE HIGHBALL MatchMaker Band (9:30)

LA PALAPA Baby Dallas

LATITUDE 30 Chris Tondre (9:00)

LUCKY LOUNGE Jeremiah Houston (9:00)

MEAN-EYED CAT Reverend Mudslide (7:30)

MISTER TRAMPS SPORTS PUB & CAFE Open Mike Acoustic Jam w/ Nick Hirsch (8:00) A

MOHAWK Gashcat (10:00)

MOMO'S William Kelly, Amy Annelle, Nick Cave Tribute w/ Boessi Kreh, Russell Beach, James Bullard (5:00)

MOZART'S COFFEE ROASTERS John Wilson (8:00) A

MUGSHOTS Chuck Miller's Acoustic Open Mic (8:00)

THE SAHARA LOUNGE Topaz, Mudphonic

SAXON PUB Lonelyland, John Pointer, the Leavers

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Brent Michael Wood

SPEAKEASY Caitie Taylor (10:00)

THE THIRSTY NICKEL Austin Heat (9:00)

THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ Shelley King (8:00) A

TRIPLE CROWN Tramps on Lean, Chief & the Doomsday Devise (9:00)

29TH STREET BALLROOM Bali Yaaah (6:30), Bobby Jealousy (10:00)

VICTORY GRILL Open Pro Blues Jam w/ Matthew Robinson, Harold McMillan (9:00)

WHIP IN Brittany Shane (8:00) A

TUESDAY

ANGEL'S ICEHOUSE Singer-Songwriter Open Mic (9:00) A

ANTONE'S Blue Tuesday w/ Derek O'Brien, Malford Milligan, Chris Layton (10:30) A

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Texas Old Time Fiddlers Jam (7:30) A

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Suzanne Smith (7:00)

BEERLAND Costa Rica, Boone Jones Graham, Holy Wave, the Zoltars (9:00) A

'BOUT TIME A.J. Kline (9:00)

BROKEN SPOKE Debra Peters, Weldon Henson

CACTUS CAFE David Hidalgo & Marc Ribot (8:30) A

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Chris Douthitt's Composer Night (7:00)

CEDAR STREET Much Love, Encore (8:00) A

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE John Evans

CHUGGIN' MONKEY Sonny Wolf (9:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: James McMurtry, Ephraim Owens Experience (8:30); In the Club: Toni Price (6:30); Alejandro Escovedo & the Sensitive Boys, Miss Melvis (10:00) A

DIZZY ROOSTER Cody Jasper (8:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station Masters

THE DRISKILL HOTEL Jackie Bristow (8:00)

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Bruce James Soultet (7:00) A

ELEPHANT ROOM Stanley Smith (6:00), Brannen Temple Underground (9:30)

ELYSIUM Yacht Club (8:00)

EMO'S EAST Molotov Solution, Skeletonwitch, Unearth, Chimaira (6:00) A

EVANGELINE CAFE Brennen Leigh (7:00) A

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Erik Hokkanen's Laboratory (9:00) A

GRUENE HALL Song Swap w/ Tom Gillam (6:00) A

HILL'S CAFE Singer-Songwriter Night w/ Jon Burkland A

HOME SLICE PIZZA Little Stolen Moments, Minor Mishap Marching Band, Flying Balalaika Brothers (Big Don, Residual Kid, Crooks (noon) A

HOUSE WINE David Webb (8:00)

INTERCONTINENTAL STEPHEN F. AUSTIN Terrace: Weldon Henson

KICK BUTT COFFEE Trey Hunter, Nathan Campbell (7:00) A

LA PALAPA Baby Dallas

LUCKY LOUNGE Hunters & Gatherers (10:00)

LUCY'S RETIRED SURFERS BAR & RESTAURANT Josh & Jason, the Twalls (6:00)

MANGIA CHICAGO STUFFED PIZZA Austinsongz (7:00)

MEAN-EYED CAT Bracken Hale (7:30)

MOHAWK Mike & the Moonpies (5:00) A; Jamestown Revival, Lusitania (9:00) A

MOMO'S The Copa Kings (Will T. Massey, Minus Ned (5:00)

ONE 2 ONE BAR Spit & Tears, Karl Morgan, Treetop Sailors (10:45)

THE PALM DOOR The Austin Chronicle Paper Cuts w/ the Tiny Adventurers (7:00)

PARAMOUNT THEATRE Michael Martin Murphey (8:00) A

PATSY'S CAFE Sand & Sunnie (6:30)

PLUSH Sonar

POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Brian Pounds, Jon Inmon (6:00) A

RED 7 Boars, Unmothered, Dethroned

RILEY'S TAVERN Jaron Bell (9:00)

RUTA MAYA Poetry Open Mic, Music Open Mic (6:00) A

SAXON PUB David Grissom (6:00); Bruce Hughes, Rob Baird, Grady Skelton (8:00)

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 • Nick Marotte - 9pm
 • The Light - 10pm

THURSDAY (11/24)
 • Closed for Thanksgiving

FRIDAY (11/25)
 • HH Wild Bill & the Lost Knobs - 6pm
 • Paula Held - 8pm
 • Barnfire Quartet - 10pm

SATURDAY (11/26)
 • Will T. Massey - 7pm
 • Greg Loftus - 9pm
 • Ben Balingier - 10pm

MONDAY (11/28)
 • HH Minus Red - 6pm
 • Bluegrass Outfit - 8pm

TUESDAY (11/29)
 • HH Austin Weekly Presents - 6pm
 • Eric Hokkanen's Lab - 9pm

WEDNESDAY (11/30)
 • Amy Alchemy - 8pm
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FROM TUESDAY

SKINNY'S BALLROOM Bob Hoffnar (7:00)

STUBB'S The Sweet Nuthin'; He's My Brother, She's My Sister **A**

THE THIRSTY NICKEL Aaron Navarro (9:00)

THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ Ryan Beaver (8:00) **A**

TRAILER SPACE RECORDS Botsy, Sky Chance (7:00) **A**

TRIPLE CROWN Captain Mudhole **J** (6:00); Spilt Milk, Peyton Eaton, Friend City (9:00)

TROPHY'S Acoustic Open Mic (9:00)

29TH STREET BALLROOM The Lonesome Heroes (10:00)

VOLSTEAD LOUNGE Heart & Soul Sound System (10:00)

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Honky Tonk Tuesday w/ Evan Christian (6:00) **A**

WHIP IN Odd Tuesday Open Mic w/ DC Bloom (8:00) **A**

Z'TEJAS Robert Kelly (6:00)

WEDNESDAY

AMAYA'S TACO VILLAGE Johnny Gonzales (5:00)

BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Kelly McGrath **A**

BASS CONCERT HALL David Hidalgo & Marc Ribot (8:00) **B**

BAT BAR Austin Heat (11:00)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Brooke Avid (10:00)

BEERLAND Whale Watch, Space Quake, Miss Moonlight, ST 37 (10:00) **B**

BROKEN SPOKE Billy Garza, Dance Lessons, Chaparral w/ Jeff Hughes

CACTUS CAFE Tom Russell (8:30) **B A**

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Crockett County Jailhouse

CEDAR STREET WAREHOUSE Kent Finlay's Songwriters Circle (11:00)

CHUGGIN' MONKEY Aaron Navarro (9:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Barbara K; Trube, Farrell, & Snizz (8:30); In the Club; Bordertown Bootleggers **J** (6:30); Jon Dee Graham, James McMurtry (10:00)

DIZZY ROOSTER Jakwagon (8:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Frank & the Station Masters

THE DRISKILL HOTEL Driskill Bar: Bruce Smith (8:00)

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE James Speer (8:00) **A**

ELEPHANT ROOM Jazz Pharoahs (6:00), John Mills Times Ten **J** (9:30)

ELYSIUM Mid-Wave w/ DJ Pumpkin Spice, DJ Edminister (8:00)

GIDDY UPS Open Mic (8:00)

GRUENE HALL The Georges (6:00) **A**

THE HIGHBALL Black Red Black (10:00) **B**

HOTEL VEGAS Jon Emery

INTERCONTINENTAL STEPHEN F. AUSTIN Terrace: Ray Prim

LAS PALOMAS Javier Chaparro, Rick McRae, Terry Hale, Art Kidd (6:30) **A**

LUCKY LOUNGE The American Spirit (9:00)

MARIA MARIA Jeff Lofton Quartet **J** (7:00) **A**

MEAN-EYED CAT The Gunhands (7:30)

MOHAWK Kaizen, Gauche, Dee Bishop, Problem Child, 22 Thoughts **J**, TSOL X Cardy, III Khalil (9:00) **B**

MOJOE ROOM BAR & GRILL Love & Harmony Open Mic (9:30) **A**

MOMO'S Justin Black, Hannah McLendon, Sons of Fathers, Little Brave **J** **B**

ONE 2 ONE BAR Miguel McDonald, Ady Hernandez, Shawn Tuthill, Kenn Gullett (9:00)

PLUSH Kill City

POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Ashley Monical (4:00), Open Mic (7:00) **A**

REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE "Frankly" Singing w/ Ken Kruse (6:30)

RED SHED TAVERN Open Mic w/ Amy Zamarripa (8:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Unsurpassed Profit (9:00)

RUTA MAYA Dance Lessons, La Mona Loca (7:45) **A**

SAM'S TOWN POINT Open Blues Jam w/ Breck English (9:00)

SAXON PUB The Nortons (6:00); Walt Wilkins & the Mystiqueros, Jason Allen, Paul Nunn (9:00)

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Blue Finger Disco

SKINNY'S BALLROOM Brian Donohoe, Mente Clara, Tim Curry Trio (5:00)

THE THIRSTY NICKEL Richard Aaron RAB (9:00)

TRAILER SPACE RECORDS Foreign Mothers, Nazi Gold (7:00) **A**

TRIPLE CROWN Pepper's Blues (6:00); Are You Crazy?, En Route, Like Monsters, Marshall & the Moon Dance (9:00)

VOLSTEAD LOUNGE John Wesley Coleman (10:00)

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Open Mic w/ Julie Nolen (10:00)

Z'TEJAS Jeff Plankenhorn, Stephen Doster, Bill Carter (6:00)

CLUB LISTINGS

THURSDAY

ACL LIVE AT THE MOODY THEATER Nick Lowe, Wilco (6:30) **B**

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Lone Star Swing **A**

BEAUTY BAR Go Go Garcia

BLUE MOON ROCK & BLUES BAR Kevin & the Krawlers (8:00)

CACTUS CAFE Alyssa Graham (8:30) **A**

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Littlest Birds, Shady Rest Band, Charles Whitman & the Branch Davidians (7:00)

CEDAR STREET Sounds of AM (6:00)

CHERRYWOOD COFFEEHOUSE Strumero (8:00) **A**

CHUGGIN' MONKEY Rusty Trapps (9:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: The Peterson Bros., Tameca Jones (8:30); In the Club: Planet Casper (6:30); Flyjack, Barfield (10:00)

DIZZY ROOSTER Guilty Pleasures (8:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Murphy's Inlaws

THE DRISKILL HOTEL The Driskill Bar: The Carper Family, Sahara Smith, Erin Ivey, Tje Austin **J**, Dale Watson (7:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Albanie & Her Fellas (6:00)

ELYSIUM Missions **J**

EMO'S Ex-Amigos, Zero Skills, Mr. Lewis & the Funeral 5 (9:00) **A**

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Open Mic w/ Lisa Kettyle (8:00) **A**

FRANK Beau Jennings, Holiday, Little Brave **J** (9:30) **B A**

FRIENDS Dive Bar All-Stars (10:30)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Alvin Crow (9:00)

GRUENE HALL Walt Wilkins & the Mystiqueros **A**

LUCKY LOUNGE Kalu James **J** (9:00)

MOHAWK Strand of Oaks, Crooked Fingers (9:00) **B**

MOMO'S Isaiha the Mosaic, Bamako Airlines, Sam Place & the Gilded Grit (9:00) **B**

ONE 2 ONE BAR Candiland, Natalie Zoe **J** (9:00)

RED 7 Twin Prisons, Neverwas (9:00) **B**

ROADHOUSE Mojo Jam

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE Jeff Lofton (7:00)

SATELLITE BISTRO & BAR Earl Poole Ball (6:30)

SAXON PUB Eightysixxed (6:00); Johnny Nicholas, Fast Luke & the Lead Heavy, Hector Ward (8:00)

SKINNY'S BALLROOM McPulish, Dr. Dubbist

STUBB'S Brown Bird, the Devil Makes 3 **B**

THE THIRSTY NICKEL The Bomb Squad (9:00)

TRIPLE CROWN Bruce Smith (6:00), Loose Leaf (10:00)

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LIBERTY SMOKE/FINE CONVERSATIONS

On November 12th I bummed a smoke from you. We had an outstanding conversation, but I do wish we had exchanged digits. Hope to find you! **When: Saturday, November 12, 2011. Where: Liberty Bar. You: Man. Me: Woman. #905434**

HIT AND DRIVE

You hit me on my bike with your car. You offered to buy me a drink but I was running late. Can I take you up on that drink now? **When: Thursday, November 17, 2011. Where: Walgreens at 45th and Guadalupe. You: Man. Me: Woman. #905433**

HOMEFIELD TALL BLONDE

U: tall, Uma Thurman lookalike walking from Homefield Grill. I walked past you on the way in, kept silent cause u were with a guy. Plze say it's your brother! **When: Wednesday, November 16, 2011. Where: Homefield Grill. You: Woman. Me: Man. #905432**

SEEKING SPROUTS SHOPPER

11/15, 7PM, you: petite, brown hair short, 3 grocery bags (black); me: blue service type short sleeve & jeans, red civic, deer in headlights look over my 'stache & beard. **When: Tuesday, November 15, 2011. Where: Sprouts Anderson. You: Woman. Me: Man. #905431**

MUHAMMAD ALLI. ME.

You were standing in line across from me and caught me looking. We shared smiles. Cashier was too slow for me to catch you. How about a staring contest? **When: Monday, November 14, 2011. Where: World Market Brodie. You: Woman. Me: Man. #905430**

PIANO

We talked about design, st. thomas, pompidou, lacma, wilshire, etc. and suddenly the light were turned off and I did not see you anymore. I'd would love to continue the conversation. **When: Friday, November 11, 2011. Where: Hyde Park. You: Man. Me: Man. #905429**

SMILES ON SIXTH

Saturday night, November 12. I was walking with two friends. You were standing with another group of grown-ups. We smiled at each other for a moment that haunts me still. **When: Saturday, November 12, 2011. Where: On the south side of Sixth Street. You: Woman. Me: Man. #905428**

DANCING @ VOLSTEAD

We danced and danced. You, gorgeous. Me, dancing fool! You're Patrick. Wow. Wanna dance again, perhaps? I'm in! **When: Saturday, November 5, 2011. Where: Volstead Lounge. You: Man. Me: Woman. #905427**

MAKE-UP LADY ARTIST

You were doing blacklight make-up 11-11-11 at the Beauty Bar and you did mine. I got a lot of compliments from your work; just wanted to say thank you! **When: Friday, November 11, 2011. Where: Beauty Bar. You: Woman. Me: Man. #905426**

GIVE ME LIBERTY...

I arrived at your home@S-Congress/Live-Oak-St Area/worked on your house/sealing off/you-made me great coffee...or give me great hair. You complemented my hair, and said your name is Doug. Your friend pulled you outside. I regretted not staying. Maybe we can meet there again. **When: Saturday, November 5, 2011. Where: The Liberty. You: Man. Me: Woman. #905424**

The Luv Doc

Well, well, well ... what have we to be thankful for? Yes, the world economy's in the toilet, drought and fires have ravaged most of the local landscape, the Longhorns might be looking at a break-even season, and it's an inescapable reality that each and every person reading this column is going to die someday, but it's not like you're ready to fellate the business end of a shotgun. You're not Kurt Cobain. Besides, there are some bright spots. How about the Interwebs? Thank you Al Gore for personally paving the information superhighway! Now nearly everyone in the world with access to an electrical socket wakes up knowing that the collective knowledge of thousands of years of human evolution is literally at his or her fingertips. Well done, sir! And yet, instead of taking advantage of the enormous enlightenment, personal growth, and understanding such information might offer, they mostly just surf for porn and post cute kitten videos on their Facebook feeds. Ah well, if you teach a man to fish, you'll feed him for a lifetime, but if you teach a man to surf the Web, he'll be surrounded by sticky Kleenex in no time. Regardless,

something good is bound to come of this Internet thing besides "Thriller" flash mobs, Rick Rolling, and WikiLeaks postings of U.S. Army snuff films. Here's something else you should feel thankful about: Obama. Sure, he's no Billy Dee Williams. Hell, he's not even Dave Chappelle, but he sure is doing a spectacular job of chapping the asses of cracker conservatives all over America, which is truly worth another four-year stint, even if Democrats have to walk 10 miles barefoot through the snow to the voting booth. Plus, if he gets a second term, Obama can go buck wild and actually make conservatives' worst nightmares come true: free foreclosed suburban homes for welfare mothers, illegalization of all guns, mandatory free education and college scholarships for all illegal immigrants, government funded abortions for everyone, socialized medicine (that's insane), and of course, the pièce de résistance, outlawing Christmas – or at the very least replacing it with a Gay Pride parade for aging bears. You know you just got a semi – not necessarily because you're into burly, hirsute old gay men, but because how awesome would that be? Old, hairy, shirtless dudes in assless chaps disco dancing to Erasure down a street lined with bawling toddlers? Well, keep your fingers crossed. There's always a chance for a Christmas miracle. Speaking of assless chaps, the weather's pretty nice isn't it? That's something to be thankful for. The icecaps may be melting because we've reduced the ozone to just a few molecules of oxygen that bump into one another every now and then, but it's the end of November and you're still rocking a rich, St. Tropez tan that makes George Hamilton look like Edward Scissorhands. You're crushing it. And lastly, you'd be remiss not to be thankful for your smartphone. Really, you have to admit it's awesome. Remember back in the day when people were worried about Big Brother (aka the government) knowing everything they did in public or in private? Turns out Big Brother could give a shit. Private individuals, on the other hand, are up in one another's chili like never before, which has created the Facebook standard of public propriety. People no longer ask themselves, "What would Jesus do?" Instead they ask themselves, "What would this look like if it were tagged in a Facebook post?" Thus, we are no longer entertained (as often and pricelessly) by a drunk wearing a lampshade and a pair of beer-stained tighty-whities doing a Riverdance on the coffee table or a potentially crippling backflip off the back of the sofa. Moonings are increasingly rare, and you know, damn ... it's like a fat cop can't mace a few protesters anymore without having it posted all over the Internet (and Photoshopped into just about every iconic image in the last 2,000 years). You can be thankful for that. Relatively, life is pretty sweet, even if you're a 99 Percentor – especially if you're a 99 Percentor in America. You should celebrate. They're doing exactly that at the Hole in the Wall this Thursday by cooking up a free Thanksgiving meal. All you have to do is show up, buy some drinks, enjoy some great music by Chris Brecht & Dead Flowers, and the Hole will feed you a delicious Thanksgiving feast.

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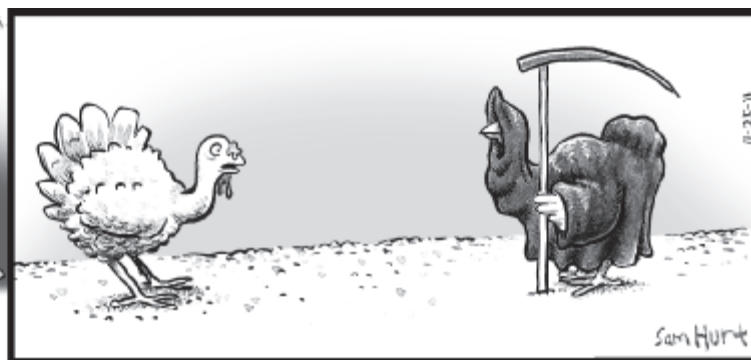
PROFILE OF THE WEEK

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live, laugh and love are good, along with look, learn and try. im a teacher.. ideal woman is thick-skinned, but with soft skin, funny and adventurous. sgilbert, 31

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COMIX



MR. SMARTY PANTS KNOWS

Vivienne Westwood, a major fashion contributor to the 1970s punk scene, once said, "Fashion is about eventually being naked."

Wisconsin produces the most cranberries of any state; the state is projected to yield 215,000 tons in 2011 alone.

Earlier this year, a Public Religion Research Institute survey said about half of Americans felt uncomfortable seeing women in burqas or a group of men praying to Allah in an airport. A concurrent Pew Research Center poll said 48% of Muslim Americans think other Americans are generally friendly to them.

Ronald Reagan liked Bart Simpson.

A June 1918 article from the trade publication *Earnshaw's Infants' Department* said the generally accepted rule is pink for boys and blue for girls because pink, being a stronger color, is more suitable for a boy, while blue, which is more delicate, is prettier for a girl.



At left is information that Mr. Smarty Pants read in a book, a magazine, or the newspaper; heard on the radio; saw on television; or overheard at a party. Got facts? Write to Mr. Smarty Pants at the Chronicle, or email mrpants@austinchronicle.com.

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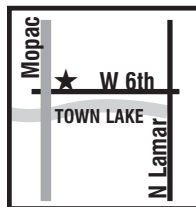
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aptmon@hotmail.com
ronjontheapartmentmon.com

SOUTH

Wake up fishing or having coffee around your private Pond.
Fitness room
Cascading pools
Close to downtown
Private patios
Washer/Dryer connections
\$559 - \$799

Ron Jon Apt Mon

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SOUTH AustinCool.com 693-7231 Free cable with HBO & internet. Big dogs OK! Saltwater pool, \$670.

SOUTH AustinCool.com 693-7231 South Congress shaded by 100 year old oaks, tranquil pool & tennis courts. Full size W/D included. 1/1 \$750, 2/2 \$925.

New

SOUTH CENTRAL Wooded community minutes from Downtown! Free cable, pool, jacuzzi, trails and more! Convenient access to the highway! 1/1 \$785. ApartmentExperts 200-7566

SOUTH CENTRAL Live the SOLA lifestyle! Walk to 78704 dining and entertainment! W/D in the unit! Two pools and a jacuzzi! Club room and fitness center! Hike and Bike trail straight to Zilker Park! 1/1 \$870. ApartmentExperts 200-7566

SOUTH CENTRAL Live right on the Barton Creek Greenbelt! Short walk to Zilker Park! Greenbelt views in select units. Tennis, volleyball, resort style pool, fitness center, all with convenient access to 290 and Mopac! Studio \$760. ApartmentExperts 200-7566

SOUTH CENTRAL Live on Town Lake less than 1 mile from downtown! 1/1 for \$830/mo! Fitness Center, Tanning Beds. Lake view swimming pool and views from select units! ApartmentExperts 200-7566

SOUTH CENTRAL Large 779 sqft 1/1 in quaint community right on South Congress, Pool, Laundry, Wood in select units. No weight limit on pets! \$699. ApartmentExperts 200-7566

SOUTH/CENTRAL

Free Cable is back!!!
Skate and City Park close by
Bus Routes on property
Two sparkling pools
Onsite laundry
That's right 2-1's from \$641

Ron Jon-Broker

512-293-7443

aptmon@hotmail.com
ronjontheapartmentmon.com

SOUTH/CENTRAL

1 Bedroom \$549
2 Bedroom \$699
Resort style pool,
Hot tub,
Fitness room,
Bus route on property,
Fast Move-Ins

Ron Jon-Broker

512-293-7443

aptmon@hotmail.com
ronjontheapartmentmon.com

SOUTHEAST Minutes to Downtown, 1/1 \$470, 2/1 \$575. Water paid, gated, pool. Call Rick 447-7368, Properties Plus.

SOUTHWEST Austincool.com 693-7231 Heavily wooded and hilly park setting, large decks overlooking Barton Creek greenbelt. Big dogs! Earthy setting, remodeled kitchens, Studio \$709.

SOUTHWEST

AustinCool.com

(512)693-7231
UPSCALE 1/1 \$780
2/2 \$905
3 BDRM \$1220

with W/D connections, indoor full-size basketball court, huge fitness center with classes.

Sunset Valley area

AUSTINCOOL.COM
AUSTIN
COOL
PROPERTIES

SOUTHWEST AustinCool.com 693-7231 Luxury on canyon park land. Wet weather waterfalls and swimming holes, minutes to downtown. Lavish condo construction with soundproofing. Large updated kitchen with gas range, oversized bathrooms, bright with large windows. Huge 2/2, \$1,209 includes cable and valet trash.

New

WEST

For Rent & Sale!
Houses
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Lofts & Condos
Blue Water Realty
(512) 496-3725

DUPLX/HOUSES

CENTRAL Close to UT Campus. 3 Bedrooms/1 Bath. Fenced yard, pet friendly, 1/2 off on deposit with good credit. Please call Eddy Eichner 512-293-3642 between 8-6.

NORTH CENTRAL

\$99 On 1st Month!
Works w/ Bad Credit & 1st Time Renters

1B- \$480-
wood floors

1b- \$550-
W/D Conn
2B- \$650

Vaulted Ceilings

Blue Water Realty
(512) 496-3725

NORTHWEST 2story 4/3/2 2222/360 area near greenbelt/Bull creek. 2400sqft. washer, dryer, fridge incl. \$1950/mth avail. 12/3 512-767-8555

SOUTH 3/2 cute house, pets ok, yd, trees. 5 min.-135: 8 min.-Mopac. Fireplace, granite/stainless kitchen, cath. ceiling, W/D, storage, furn., pk, deck. 3 to 4 mos. or longer, early Jan. 512-949-7474

SOUTH List of available duplexes & homes. Quick & courteous Realtor. Call Rick @ 447-7368 w/Properties Plus

ROOMMATES

METRO ROOMMATES.COM. Browse hundreds of online listings with photos and maps. Find your roommate with a click of the mouse! Visit: <http://www.Roommates.com>. (AAN CAN)

FOR SALE

CEDAR PARK

AustinCool.com/sales

SEARCH 11,000 AUSTIN SALES LISTINGS!
FREE BUYER REP.
(512) 693-7231
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AUSTIN
COOL
PROPERTIES

CENTRAL

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EXPERTS

Starting at \$190K!
Wood, stainless appliances & more!

(512)693-7231

All downtown listings at:

AustinCool.com/sales

AUSTINCOOL.COM

LAKE MEDINA Liquidation of lots in gated subdivision at Lake Medina, bad credit no credit OK, 3 lots available Hurry! 830-460-8354 Guaranteed financing, WSE available

NORTH Very nice! 3/2/2 near 183/McNeil, new/roof, new/ac, freshly/painted inside/outside and new/flooring. Possible owner/finance 30k/down, \$144k 956-266-9692.

SERVICES

AGENT, LICENSED

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REALTOR

Carrie York Agent-
801-0436

Austin Real Pros,
REALTORS 458-3730

MAIZIE

I am a super energetic little girl who is a big dog at heart! They say I am a Chihuahua/Miniature Pinscher mix, and as you can see, I'm just as cute as can be. I love to play with my other friends here at the shelter. I am also a superstar at adoption day. I love to greet everyone!



Pet of the Week

FRANCESCA BIANCA

Hi, my name is Francesca Bianca. I am 2 years young and looking for a forever family! I am a gorgeous girl who is very calm and loving in nature. Please come spend some time with me and see if we hit it off!

124 W. Anderson Ln. 512/646-7387 ext.105



PROPERTIES FOR RENT!

Vintage Travis Heights/78704

Near Stacy Park, small courtyard community, most bills paid, 1/1 \$685, 2/2 \$875, Hardwood floors!

Riverside

Wood floors special! 1/1 \$525, 2/2 \$650. Ready for move-in!

78704/South Lamar

Near Broken Spoke, large private patio!
1/1 \$821, 2/1 \$989.

Eastside/Riverside

Free Wifi! Newly remodeled, one exit to downtown.
2/1 \$760.

Zilker Park complete remodel

Price drop! Studio \$708. 1 bedroom \$811. 2 bedroom \$980. Gas cooking!

Eastside/Manor Rd

Hardwood floors, small courtyard, 1/1 \$699. 2/1 \$809.

Riverside, 1 Exit to Downtown

Studio \$495, 1 bedroom \$565, 2 bedroom \$715.
Hardwood Floors!

Modern Loft

Stainless appliances, granite counter tops, walk to Whole Foods, 1/1 \$1438, 2/2 \$2973.

Rare Zilker Park

Complete remodel, W/D in all units, 1/1 \$1010, 2 bedroom \$1141.

Oltorf, Near Downtown

1/1 \$559, 2/2 \$749, Large private decks!

We have 1000s of listings for lease throughout Central Austin! Call for show!



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COUCH 84 inch couch perfect for lounging while watching your favorite TV series. \$250 casabar@austin.r.com

GARAGE/ ESTATE SALES

ESTATE SALE Designer Showroom Closeout ~ 6000 South Congress Ave, Austin, TX 78745 November 25th, 26th & 27th 9AM-5PM Huge 3 Day SALE! 3 Days Only!!! Antiques, Designer Furniture, Desks, Couches, Ottomans, Occasional Chairs, Dining Room Chairs and Tables, Rugs, Décor, Hutches, Mirrors, TV Stands...Lots and Lots of Pillow, Fabrics, Snakeskin Boots, Frames, Lamps, File Cabinets, and much, much more! FABULOUS ART COLLECTION !!! There's something for everyone!!! ALL PRICES ARE NEGOTIABLE Questions / Details ~ Mark - 512-351-1429

LOST & FOUND

Looking for William (Bill) Bagley. Anyone who has seen Bill since May of last year, please let me know. He has family and friends who are worried about him. Thanks, Leo, 512-461-9513 or leobuis@yahoo.com

MOTOR

1988 CHEVY Silverado 1500 Long bed, new AC system, tow package, runs and drives great. Miles 166k- Truck is amazingly clean and straight. \$2450. Warranty available.

Auto Depot 909
Prairie Trail 836-9767. www.autodepotatustin.com

1991 TOYOTA Corolla Only 82k miles, AT, being readied, 1 year warranty.\$2450.

Auto Depot 909
Prairie Trail 836-9767. www.autodepotatustin.com

1999 BUICK Le Sabre 77k miles. Very clean, warranty. \$3950.
Auto Depot 909 Prairie Trail. 836-9767. www.autodepotatustin.com

1999 TOYOTA Avalon 4 Dr, leather, very clean. Full warranty. Can trade. \$4250.
Auto Depot 909 Prairie Trail. 836-9767. www.autodepotatustin.com



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FREE SERVICE IMMED. MOVE-INS, 1ST TIME RENTERS, HOUSES & DUPLEXES, BIG DOGS, BAD CREDIT & BROKEN LEASES
South/Central
1B \$525 Wood floors, 670sqft, walk to downtown
1B \$425 1Month Free, 555sqft
2B \$600 wood floors, bike to downtown
2-2 \$575 1Month Free, Cheap Rent!
2-2 \$720 Wood floors 1026sqft, free trash/water
3-2 House \$195 1st time for lease
North/Central
1B \$497 Wood floors, salt water pool.
1B \$580 676 sqft w/d, Great location!
2-2 \$750 1036sqft w/d-big as a house
2B \$850 True gem, walk to light rail.

THE AUTO DEPOT

VOTED BEST IN AUSTIN 7 TIMES
BY THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE
AND CITYSEARCH

CALL US FOR FIRST CLASS BODY/
MECHANICAL REPAIRS! WE CAN PAY
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MOST CARS/TRUCKS QUALIFY FOR OPTIONAL EXTENDED WARRANTY!

836-9767

909 Prairie Trail

ONE STREET SOUTH OF KRAMER, WEST OF NORTH LAMAR.
LOOK FOR THE BIG RED AUTO BARN.

Now open M-F 8AM-6PM Saturday 10AM-4PM

PHONE JIM AT **294-2885** UNTIL 9PM
7 DAYS/WEEK FOR ANY OF THESE CARS OR FOR REPAIRS. WE CAN
PROBABLY FIND WHAT YOU WANT.

**DON'T FORGET - WE BUY CARS
(RUNNING OR NOT) (ACCIDENTS OKAY)**

2003 Tahoe, some hail dents, but clean drives super, can trade,
\$4,350.

2001 Honda Accord, loaded, leather, EX, can trade, \$4950.

2001 Honda Accord, 4dr., one owner, \$5,750.

1982 Chev pickup, with 69K. Needs paint, but solid. \$1,450.

1991 Dodge Dakota, auto, 160K \$2,250.

2005 Hyundai Accent, 4dr., AT, 72K, \$4,750.

1998 BMW 540i - Really, really nice clean. 6 speed standard. \$4,950.

1995 Camry four door, AT, really nice, 155k, warranty, \$3,250.

2003 Infiniti G-35, 102K, needs TLC, \$8,950. Good title.

2001 Honda CRV, 103k looks, drives as new, \$4,950.

1998 Saturn wagon, 5 speed, needs clutch bearing - cold AC \$1,150.

ALL ABOVE CARS CAN TRADE, AND HAVE WARRANTY.
OPEN SATURDAY UNTIL 4PM
— LATER IF NEED BE!

CALL US FOR FIRST CLASS BODY/MECHANICAL REPAIRS!
WE CAN PAY PART OR ALL OF YOUR DEDUCTIBLE.

MOTOR cont.

2002 CHRYSLER PT touring cruiser very, very nice. \$5650. Warranty
Auto Depot 909 Prairie Trail. 836-9767. www.autodepotaustin.com

2003 VOLKSWAGEN GTI
5 sp., leather. Very very nice, and we can trade. 96k miles. Warranty \$6450. Auto Depot 909
Prairie Trail 836-9767. www.autodepotaustin.com

2006 KIA Rio 75k miles, 5 sp., clean in and out, drives perfectly. Can Trade. \$4850. Auto Depot 909
Prairie Trail 836-9767. www.autodepotaustin.com

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ADOPTION SAVE ONE DOG - SAVE THE WORLD! Wanted: Super Homes for our Super Dogs! For Adoptions call Utopia Animal Rescue Ranch 830-589-7544 or check out our dogs at : www.utopiarescue.com

DALMATIAN PUPPIES Black Friday sale! \$200 off select pups, orig \$750. AKC reg. m/f s/w 903.934.9611 dorothysperfectpets@yahoo.com dorothysperfectpets.com

LAB PUPPIES Labrador Retriever Puppies - Yellow - AKC \$300 - parents on site, blockheads, hunters, pets. 210 859-1953 210 378-4401 LilyGroveLabs.com

TICKETS/ENTERTAINMENT

ALL



..ROGER WATERS.

..WICKED.

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..MARY MARY.

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..TRANS SIBERIAN.

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..ROBERT EARL KEEN.

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TICKETS

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Kathy Griffin * Tran

Siberian

Beauty & The Beast Wicked

*Sedaris * Jeff Dunham

Willie * Radiohead *

Deepak

Pickup/Mail Order 448-2303

the COMMON LAW

by Luke Ellis will return on the
FIRST THURSDAY of EVERY MONTH

Until then, here's an *uncommon law*
that you may need to be aware of:

In 1930, Ontario, Calif.'s City Council
passed an ordinance forbidding roosters
to crow within the city limits. In
Kenilworth, Ill., a rooster must step back
300 feet from any residence if he wishes
to crow. Hens that wish to cackle must
step 130 feet back from any residence.

This is more humane than the law
in Lakeland, Fla., where all
roosters must be kept in a box or
a pen where they can't raise
their head high enough
to crow.

LEGAL

A & R Organization LLC,
Alejandro Torres, CEO,
DbA The Cigar Room is
making application with
the Texas Alcoholic Beverage
Commission for a
Mixed Beverage Permit
and Mixed Beverage Late
hours on the address of
1310 RR620 Ste A-12,
Lakeway, Travis County
Texas.

Application has been
made with the Texas
Alcoholic Beverage
Commission for a Mixed
Beverage/ Late Night
Permit by Chase Offshore
Corporation Ltd dba Wild
West, to be located at
401 E. Whitestone Blvd,
Ste B100, Cedar Park,
Williamson County,
Texas. Officers of said
corporation are Kate J
Kesler, Pres., D Wayne
Morris, Secretary.

Application has been
made with the Texas
Alcoholic Beverage
Commission for a
Mixed Beverage Permit
for RARE Hospitality
International, Inc. dba
LongHorn Steakhouse
#5396 to be located at
9900 South I-35, Austin,
Travis County, Texas
78748. Officers of said
company are: William
White, President/Treasurer;
Carl Richmond,
Vice President; Joseph
Kern, Vice President/
Secretary; Colleen Hunter,
Assistant Secretary;
Douglas Wentz, Assistant
Secretary.

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-10-004511
To: MARTHA ALICIA HERNANDEZ AGUILAR and to all who it
may concern, Respondent(s);
GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN
SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not
file a written answer with the clerk
who issued this citation by 10:00
A.M. on the Monday next following
the expiration of twenty days after
you were served this citation and
petition, a default judgment may
be taken against you. YOU ARE
HEREBY COMMANDED to appear
and answer before the Honorable
District Court, 98TH JUDICIAL
DISTRICT COURT,

Travis County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the Monday next after expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the ORIGINAL PETITION FOR DIVORCE, TRAVIS COUNTY STANDING ORDER filed in said court on AUGUST 19, 2010, and said suit being number D-1-FM-10-004511 on the docket of said Court, and entitled "IN THE MATTER OF THE MARRIAGE OF LEONARDO RODRIGUEZ and MARTHA ALICIA HERNANDEZ AGUILAR, ET AL CHILDREN, and In the Interest of LUIS ANTONIO RODRIGUEZ AND ANA LIZBETH RODRIGUEZ, CHILD".

The nature of said suit is a request to DISSOLVE the marriage of the parties, appoint managing and possessory conservators, and divide the estate of the parties in a manner that the court deems just and right.

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the CHILD's interest which will be binding on you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity, and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the CHILD's adoption.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, October 07, 2011.

AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA
Travis County District Clerk
Travis County Courthouse
1000 Guadalupe,
PO. Box 679003 (78767)
Austin, Texas 78701
By /s/ CHARLES UPSHAW, Deputy
REQUESTED BY:
JAMES STEPHEN SUSTAITA
812 SAN ANTONIO,
SUITE 101
AUSTIN, TX 78701
BUSINESS PHONE: (512) 673-3999
FAX: (512) 472-3054

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-11-003739
To: ABRAHAM DE LA CRUZ LOPEZ and to all who it may concern, Respondent(s):
GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you.

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable District Court, 353RD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, Travis County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the Monday next after expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the ORIGINAL PETITION FOR DIVORCE filed in said court on NOVEMBER 16, 2011, and said suit being number D-1-FM-11-003739 on the docket of said Court, and entitled "IN THE MATTER OF THE MARRIAGE OF AMALIA VEGA and ABRAHAM DE LA CRUZ, ET AL, and In the Interest of KENIA DE LA CRUZ, HERMAN DE LA CRUZ, JACKIE DE LA CRUZ, CHRIS DE LA CRUZ, CHILD".

The nature of said suit is a request to DISSOLVE the marriage of the parties, appoint managing and possessory conservators, and divide the estate of the parties in a manner that the court deems just and right.

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the CHILD's interest which will be binding on you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of pater

nity, and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the CHILD's adoption.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, November 16, 2011.

AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA
Travis County District Clerk
Travis County Courthouse

1000 Guadalupe,
PO. Box 679003 (78767)
Austin, Texas 78701
By /s/ STEPHANIE WILLIAMS, Deputy
REQUESTED BY:
AMALIA VEGA
816 CONGRESS, SUITE 701
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-09-005211
To: SIMON GUTIERREZ and to all who it may concern, Respondent(s):
GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you.

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable District Court, 353RD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, Travis County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the Monday next after expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the ORIGINAL PETITION FOR DIVORCE and TRAVIS COUNTY STANDING ORDER filed in said court on FEBRUARY 09, 2011, and said suit being number D-1-FM-09-005211 on the docket of said Court, and entitled "IN THE MATTER OF THE MARRIAGE OF CAROLINA RIVERA and SIMON GUTIERREZ, ET AL, and In the Interest of JEAWCARLO URIEL GUTIERREZ RIVERA, CHILD".

The nature of said suit is a request to DISSOLVE the marriage of the parties, appoint managing and possessory conservators, and divide the estate of the parties in a manner that the court deems just and right.

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the CHILD's interest which will be binding on you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity, and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the CHILD's adoption.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, November 16, 2011.

AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA
Travis County District Clerk
Travis County Courthouse
1000 Guadalupe,
PO. Box 679003 (78767)
Austin, Texas 78701
By /s/ STEPHANIE WILLIAMS, Deputy
REQUESTED BY:
CAROLINA RIVERA VE-LAZQUEZ
1515 GROVE BLVD
APT # 221
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78741

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-11-006426
To: JOE A DE LEON and to all who it may concern, Respondent(s):
GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you.

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable District Court, 126TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, Travis County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the Monday next after expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the ORIGINAL PETITION IN SUIT AFFECTING THE PARENT CHILD RELATIONSHIP AND TRAVIS COUNTY STANDING ORDER filed in said court on NOVEMBER 16, 2011, and said suit being number D-1-FM-11-006426 on the docket of said Court, and entitled "IN THE INTEREST OF MARK A DE LEON and In the Interest of

MARK A DE LEON, CHILD".
The nature of said suit is a request to establish and appoint managing possessory conservators.

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the CHILD's interest which will be binding on you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity, and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the CHILD's adoption.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, November 16, 2011.

AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA
Travis County District Clerk
Travis County Courthouse
1000 Guadalupe,
PO. Box 679003 (78767)
Austin, Texas 78701
By /s/ STEPHANIE WILLIAMS, Deputy
REQUESTED BY:
KRISTI JACKSON
4811 COTTONWOOD STREET
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78744

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-11-006426
To: CARMEN R GUTIERREZ and to all who it may concern, Respondent(s):
GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you.

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable District Court, 126TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, Travis County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the Monday next after expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the ORIGINAL PETITION IN SUIT AFFECTING THE PARENT CHILD RELATIONSHIP AND TRAVIS COUNTY STANDING ORDER filed in said court on NOVEMBER 16, 2011, and said suit being number D-1-FM-11-006426 on the docket of said Court, and entitled "IN THE INTEREST OF MARK A DE LEON and In the Interest of MARK A DE LEON, CHILD".

The nature of said suit is a request to establish and appoint managing possessory conservators.

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the CHILD's interest which will be binding on you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity, and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the CHILD's adoption.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, November 16, 2011.

AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA
Travis County District Clerk
Travis County Courthouse
1000 Guadalupe,
PO. Box 679003 (78767)
Austin, Texas 78701
By /s/ STEPHANIE WILLIAMS, Deputy
REQUESTED BY:
KRISTI JACKSON
4811 COTTONWOOD STREET
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78744

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-11-003529
To: SHIRAZIE HARVEY and to all who it may concern, Respondent(s):
GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you.

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable District

Court, 261ST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, Travis County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the Monday next after expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the PETITION IN SUIT AFFECTING THE PARENT CHILD RELATIONSHIP AND TRAVIS COUNTY STANDING ORDER of TRICIA R JARMON Petitioner(s), filed in said court on JUNE 23, 2011, against JEREMIE PRESTON Respondent(s), and said suit being entitled "IN THE INTEREST OF J NIIYAH RAYOS, JAY DAH V RAYOS- PRESTON", the nature of which suit is a request PETITION IN SUIT AFFECTING THE PARENT CHILD RELATIONSHIP.

The Name, Birth date, and Place of Birth of said is as follows:

J'NIIYAH O RAYOS
11/14/09
AUSTIN, TX

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the CHILD's interest which will be binding on you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity, and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the CHILD's adoption.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, November 16, 2011.

AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA
Travis County District Clerk
Travis County Courthouse
1000 Guadalupe,
PO. Box 679003 (78767)
Austin, Texas 78701
By /s/ ELIZABETH GARCIA, Deputy
REQUESTED BY:
TRICIA RENEE JARMON
705 THOMPSON ST #6701
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78702

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF KATHRYN LOUISE JONES. Deceased, Cause No. C-1-PB-11-000552, In Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.

DAVID WESLEY JONES, alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on October 11, 2011, an Amended Application to Determine Heirship and Application for Dependent Administration in the said estate and request(s) that said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said KATHRYN LOUISE JONES, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a writ

ten answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, on November 21, 2011.

Dana DeBeauvoir
County Clerk,
Travis County, Texas
PO Box 149325, Austin, Texas 78714-9325
By Deputy: D. Mendez

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-11-006300
To: JOSE MARIA VALLADOLID and to all who it may concern, Respondent(s):
GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you.

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable District

Court, 261ST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, Travis County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the Monday next after expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the ORIGINAL PETITION FOR DIVORCE, TRAVIS COUNTY STANDING ORDER filed in said court on NOVEMBER 9, 2011, and said suit being number D-1-FM-11-006300 on the docket of said Court, and entitled "IN THE MATTER OF THE MARRIAGE OF MARIA P BARAJAS and JOSE MARIA VALLADOLID, ET AL, and In the Interest of DAVID BARAJAS, JOSE VALLADOLID, AND ABRAHAM VALLADOLID, CHILDREN".

The nature of said suit is a request to DISSOLVE the marriage of the parties, appoint managing and possessory conservators, and divide the estate of the parties in a manner that the court deems just and right.

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the CHILD's interest which will be binding on you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity, and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the CHILD's adoption.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, November 14, 2011.

AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA
Travis County District Clerk
Travis County Courthouse
1000 Guadalupe,
PO. Box 679003 (78767)
Austin, Texas 78701
By /s/ CHARLES UPSHAW, Deputy
REQUESTED BY:
MARIA BARAJAS
5013 SUNSET TRAIL
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78745
512-905-8966

D-1-GV-09-001939 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 126th District Court of Travis County, on the 10th day of October, 2011 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-09-001939, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent School District, Lago Vista Independent School District-County Education District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 and Travis County Healthcare District d/b/a Central Health are plaintiffs, and Gentry Investments and Lauterborn Homes, Inc. (In Rem Only), if active and if inactive, the unknown owners, assigns, successors, and

heirs of the Estate of Gentry Investments and Lauterborn Homes, Inc. (In Rem Only), J.P. Morgan Chase Bank, N.A. f/k/a Bank One, N.A. f/k/a Bank One, Texas, N.A. f/k/a Team Bank f/k/a Bank of the Hills (In Rem Only), and City of Lago Vista (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$6,670.15** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 126th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on March 28, 2011.

I, on the 24th day of October, 2011, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 6th day of December, 2011 at 10:00 o'clock A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Unit 8-A, Building A, Lago Vista Lodges Condominiums, Condo, Records 8/542 as described in document number 2001139088 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$6,670.15** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 24th day of October, 2011.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY
ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-10-000922 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 98TH District Court of Travis County, on the 10th day of October, 2011 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-10-000922, wherein Travis County, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1, Travis County Healthcare District d/b/a Central Health and City of Lago Vista are plaintiffs, and Jose Diaz, State of Texas/Bond Forfeiture Section (In Rem Only) and United States of America-Internal Revenue Service (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the following sums: **Tract One: Billing Number 61913 = \$2,536.37 and Tract Two: Billing Number 61918 = \$24,475.41** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 98TH District Court of Travis County, Texas, on March 4, 2011.

I, on the 24th day of October, 2011, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 6th day of December, 2011 at 10:00 o'clock A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

TRACT ONE: BILLING NO.: 061913

Lot 7, Block K, Lago Vista Section 3, Phase 3, Plat No. 30/40, Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described in Document No. 20071018439 of the Deed

Records of Travis County, Texas

TRACT TWO: 061918

Lot 12, Block K, Lago Vista Section 3, Phase 3, Plat No. 30/40, Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described in Document No. 20071018439 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for the following sums: **Tract One: Billing Number 61913 = \$2,536.37 and Tract Two: Billing Number 61918 = \$24,475.41** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 24th day of October, 2011.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY
ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU

HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-10-000937 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 261st District Court of Travis County, on the 12th day of October, 2011 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-10-000937, wherein Travis County, Travis County Healthcare District d/b/a Central Health, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1, Austin Community College and Leander Independent School District are plaintiffs, and Rouzan Barton are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the following sums: **Tract One: Billing Number 507490 = \$8,336.87 and Tract Two: Billing Number 529529 = \$16,573.87** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 261st District Court of Travis County, Texas, on July 26, 2011.

I, on the 24th day of October, 2011, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 6th day of December, 2011 at 10:00 o'clock A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Tract One: Billing Number: 507490

4 acres out of the Frank Inman Survey 554 as described in Volume 11571, Page 1987 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas

Tract Two: Billing Number: 529529

7 acres out of the Frank Inman Survey 554 as described in Volume 12054, Page 338 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for the following sums: **Tract One: Billing Number 507490 = \$8,336.87 and Tract Two: Billing Number 529529 = \$16,573.87** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 24th day of October, 2011.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY
ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANT

TIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-10-001143 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 353rd District Court of Travis County, on the 24th day of October, 2011 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-10-001143, wherein Austin Community College, Austin Independent School District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 3 and Travis County Healthcare District are plaintiffs, and Darleen Mueller, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Darleen Mueller and Julius W. Mueller, Jr. are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the following sums: **Tract One: Billing Number 471447 = \$4,255.48 and Tract Two: Billing Number 163514 = \$11,025.30** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of

judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 353es District Court of Travis County, Texas, on February 8, 2011.

I, on the 25th day of October, 2011, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 6th day of December, 2011 at 10:00 o'clock A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Tract One: Billing Number 471447

.327 of an acre out of the J.R. Morgan Sur. 56 (called A.W. Nichols Sur. In deed) as described in Volume 8787, Page 332 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas

Tract Two: Billing Number 163514

.15 of an acre out of the J.R. Morgan Sur. 56 and the W.P. Baxter Sur. 58 as described in document number 2000067938 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for the following sums: **Tract One: Billing Number 471447 = \$4,255.48 and Tract Two: Billing Number 163514 = \$11,025.30** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 25th day of October, 2011.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
BY /s/ G.L. Blaylock DEPUTY
ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF

YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for the following sums: **Tract One: Billing Number 507490 = \$8,336.87 and Tract Two: Billing Number 529529 = \$16,573.87** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 24th day of October, 2011.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY
ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANT

TIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

I, on the 24th day of October, 2011, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 6th day of December, 2011 at 10:00 o'clock A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot A, Resubdivision of Lots 24 & 25, Block A, MSZ Addition Amended, Plat No. 66/26, Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described in document number 2007191168 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

LEGAL/NOTICES cont.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$14,759.66** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 24th day of October, 2011.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY
ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHAT- EVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-003140

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 261ST District Court of Travis County, on the 10th day of October, 2011 in a certain cause numbered GV-003140, wherein Austin Community College, Austin Independent School District, Travis County and Travis County Emergency Services District No. 3 are plaintiffs, and Thomas P. McDill, Jr., United States of America (In Rem Only) and United States of America- Internal Revenue Service (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$14,473.16** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 261ST District Court of Travis County, Texas, on March 5, 2002.I, on the 24th day of October, 2011, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 6th day of December, 2011 at 10:00 o'clock,

A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 20, The Ridge at Thomas Springs, Plat No. 77/193 as described in Volume 13115, Page 2069 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$14,473.16** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 24th day of October, 2011.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY
ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHAT- EVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

NOTICE Levy Restaurants is soliciting Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprise participation for the following City of Austin project. Plans are available at the Austin area plan rooms, our office and the locations listed in the Invitation for Bids.

Name of Project: Catering and Concession Services for the Austin Convention Center Department

Project/Solicitation Number: PAX0101015

Location of Pre-Bid

Conference, if any: N/A

Bid Date and Time: November 30, 2011, 3:00 p.m. CST

The project includes the following scopes of service:

Catering and Concessions

Contact our office for detailed information on the scopes of work being subcontracted and the relevant terms and conditions of the contract.

Please contact: Cindy Van Rensburg at (713) 758-7517 or (713) 758-7538(fax)

All bids MUST be received by: TBD

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES Pursuant to Texas Abandoned Motor Vehicle Act, the following vehicle(s) will be sold at Public Auction if not claimed within 72 days.

Garagekeeper:
A&A WRECKER AND RECOVERY, LLC

2963 MANOR ROAD

AUSTIN, TX 78722

PH: (512) 670-7578

1987 Mercury Sable, Lic# BXX860 (MI), VIN# 1MEFM-55S1HG616863

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES Pursuant to Texas Abandoned Motor Vehicle Act, the following vehicle(s) will be sold at Public Auction if not claimed within 30 days.

Garagekeeper:
A&A WRECKER AND RECOVERY, LLC

2963 MANOR ROAD

AUSTIN, TX 78722

PH: (512) 670-7578

1. 1983 GMC Truck, Lic# 72BL16, VIN# VIN# 1GTEC14HXDS509560

2. 1999 Saturn SL1, Lic# NJV254, VIN# 1G8Z-K5273XZ260790

3. 1999 Mitsubishi Diamante, Lic# 225TSD, VIN# 6MMAP-47PXXT006727

4. 1992 Hyundai Excel, Lic# BP8M1T2, VIN# KMHVD-32J8NU175223

5. 1998 Oldsmobile, Lic# IL 5657 (IN), VIN# 1GH

DT13W6W2724846

6. 1998 Ford Crown Victoria, Lic# 518YGC,

VIN# 2FAFP71W6WX129443

7. 1995 Toyota Celica, Lic# CD1N293, VIN# JT-2ST07NF50024745

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES PURSUANT OF TEXAS ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE ACT, THE FOLLOWING WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC SALE UNLESS CHARGES ARE SATISFIED WITHIN 30 DAYS.

GARAGE KEEPER: SOUTH-SIDE WRECKER, 8200 S CONGRESS, AUSTIN, TX. 78745.
EZ GO GOLF CART 1570558

NOTICE OF AUCTION The Storage Center, under Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, hereby gives Notice of Sale under Said Act, to Wit: **On Monday, December 5 at 10AM, a Public Auction will be held at 2150 Double Creek Dr., Round Rock, TX 78664** to satisfy Landlord's Lien. Sale to highest bidder, cash only. We reserve the right to refuse any or all bids. Property will be viewed at door, and buyer will remove all items and leave unit clean.

Units to Auction:
#195 Nate Brown - Computer circuit boards & components, misc.

#278 Amber Platt - Chair, Xmas decorations, stuffed animals, misc.

#764 Danetta Hale - Child's kitchen & bike, furniture, BBQ cooker

#808 Freddy Plascencia - Household & children's items, clothing, misc.

#894 Gwen Williams - Bed headboard, tires, washer, TV
#910 Maria Lanes-Castellano - Rocker, bookcase, household items

#914 Pamela Moreland - Dining table & cabinet, smoker, household items

Continuation of Auction will be at 981 Red Bud Lane @ Old Settlers Rd., Round Rock, TX 78665 at 11:00 AM.

Units to Auction:

512=== Irvin Barnett - Furniture, boxes, misc

608=== Dave Chudakoff - Furniture, bicycle, refrigerator, misc.

914=== Kancy R. Degollado - Furniture, TV, misc.

933=== Carrick Glover - Mattress, boxes, chair, misc.

934 = Carrick Glover - Bookshelf, dresser, chair, misc.

1001= Aaron Bryant - Sofa, desk, mattress, furniture

NOTICE OF NEW TRAFFIC REGULATION

Notice is hereby given that Travis County, Texas, proposes the approval of the following traffic regulation:

SET MAXIMUM PRIMA FACIE SPEED LIMITS ON JACKSON STREET, WESLEY STREET, EDWARD STREET AND MORROW STREET IN PRECINCT ONE.

Any resident of Travis County, Texas, aggrieved by this proposal action may make written request for a mandatory public hearing.

Such request must be addressed to the Transportation and Natural Resources Department, Travis County, Texas, 78767, and must be received within seven (7) days of this notice.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

PS Orangeco, Inc. hereby gives notice that the property generally described below is being sold to satisfy a Landlord's Lien pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, at the time and place indicated below, and on the following terms: All property generally described below will be sold at public sale to the highest bidder for cash, or credit cards, **NO CHECKS**, with payment to be made at the time of the sale. Seller reserves the right to refuse

any bid and to withdraw any item or items from the sale. The property will be sold on the 14th of December 2011 on or about the time indicated at each self-storage facility identified: **NO CHILDREN PLEASE.**

Wednesday, December 14, 2011.

9:00 a.m. Public Storage @9814 Westgate Blvd, Austin, TX 78748

0077 - Genova, Janet

Appliances; Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture

0156 - Knop, Nicole

Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

0187 - Rich, Jared

Bedding / Clothing; Furniture

0368 - Jones, Rebecca

Electronics / Computers; Furniture

0404 - DAVIS, ELAINE

Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture

0444 - Hernandez, Elena

Appliances; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Toys

0483 - miller, jodi

Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture

0505 - Kerwick, John

Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

0569 - Martinez, Melinda

Electronics / Computers; Furniture; Tools

9:30a.m. Public Storage @ 1200 S 1st Street. Austin, TX 78745

A001 - Traugott, Arvin

Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture; Toys

A011 - Delavega, Joel

Electronics / Computers

B025 - Smith, Margret

Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture; Toys

J280 - Trussel, Patricia Elaine

Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture

K291 - Ogilvie, Dan

Appliances; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Tools

L327 - Seligman, Zach

Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture

L360 - Shoels, Shakia

Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture

O465 - Garcia Hoes, Rosa

Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture

Q494 - galloway, lisa

Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes

S568 - Daniel, Joy

=Boxes / Bags / Totes

V764 - COLLINS, BETSY

Boxes / Bags / Totes

W786 - Alfaro, Lisbeth

Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

D6 - Dotson, Shallun

Appliances; Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

K16 - Adami, Rita

Appliances; Books / Files / Cabinets; Furniture

L49 - Maldonado, Jose

Electronics / Computers; Toys

L82 - puckett, Justin

Furniture; Tools

M41 - young, kerstin

Appliances; Boxes / Bags / Totes

G21 - LUJAN, ARMANDO

=Boxes / Bags / Totes;

11:30 a.m. Public Storage @ 4202 Santiago, Austin, TX 78745

210 - DeFontaine, Stephanie

Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

343 - Zapata, Lorine

Boxes / Bags / Totes

387 - Vandergriff, Shoshannah

Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

561 - Rodriguez, Hilda

Appliances; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Toys

670 - Holland, Jason

Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture

12:30 p.m. Public Storage @ 2301 E Ben White, Austin, TX 78741

1039 - Niesen, Charles

Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers

1107 - Hernandez, Israel

Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

1124 - Hernandez, Yolanda

Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Files / Cabinets; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture

2060 - Tolbert, Michael

Bedding / Clothing; Books / Files / Cabinets; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture; Tools; Toys

2066 - Soto, Fabian

Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

2186 - Brown, Courtney Dee

Boxes / Files / Cabinets

2194 - Patuel, Sara

Bedding / Clothing; Furniture

3027 - Estrada, Eva

Books / Files / Cabinets; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Toys

3038 - Sanchez, Monica

Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

3041 - Allen, Christina

Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

3085 - Daniel, Joy

Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

3223 - DeLeon, Kristina

Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Files / Cabinets; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture

3234 - Palmer, Cheryl

Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

1:30 p.m. Public Storage @ 5016 E Ben White, Austin, TX 78741

B003 - Coleman, Felicia

Bedding / Clothing; Books / Files / Cabinets; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

B015 - Jackson, Marilyn

Appliances; Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

B044 - Hollingsworth, Amelia

Appliances; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

C036 - Ramirez, Chris

Tools

C048 - Robbins, Molly

Bedding / Clothing; Tools

C049 - Dorsey, Rene

Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Tools

C078 - Noyola, Angelica

Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools

C088 - Scott, Beverly

Boxes / Bags / Totes;

C139 - Hollingsworth, Amelia

Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

C178 - Guzman, Ruth

Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture

C184 - Rankin, Amanda

Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools

C236 - Hoballah, Jamil

Tools

C246 - Rodriguez, Amy

Appliances; Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture; Tools

C306 - Baltierra, Sonia

Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

C337 - Edward, Carl

Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture

2:30 p.m. Public Storage @ 2121 S IH 35, Austin, TX 78741

1095 - Bullock, Mary

Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture; Toys

3121 - AIR QUALITY SOLUTIONS

Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Tools

4116 - Zapata, Jamie

Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture

4136 - Freeberg, Orion

Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers

3:00 p.m. Public Storage @ 1213 W. 6th Street, Austin, TX 78703

1058 - Wittman, Laurie Babb

Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

2094 - Saunders, Chris

Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers

3014 - Bennett, Samuel

=Boxes / Bags / Totes

3050 - Cornerstone Promotion: Actos Dep.

=Boxes / Bags / Totes

5087 - NEELY, MICHAEL

Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers

3:15 p.m. Public Storage @ 5220 US HWY 290W, Austin, TX 78735

2188 - Baack, Brianne

Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Files / Cabinets; Electronics / Computers; Furniture

3220 - Bowen, Ashley

Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Toys

4300 - Isikwe, Paul

=Boxes / Bags / Totes

3:30 p.m. Public Storage @ 6726 Bee Cave Road Austin, TX 78746

1001 - Barstow, Jan

Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

2222 - Murdock, Ashley

Bedding / Clothing; Tools

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE of property to satisfy landlord's lien. **Sale is 10:00am December 6, 2011.** Property will be sold to highest bidder for cash at the time of auction. Cleanup and removal deposit may be required. Seller reserves right to withdraw property from sale or not accept any bidder. Property will be sold in entire contents of each individual storage unit. Property includes contents of spaces of following tenants: Oman Brady, Nathan Sattler, David Watts, James

Rodriguez, Theresa Sifuentes, Christopher Gilmore, Melanie Bauer, James Hudson, Kerri Neumann, Bernhardt Leal.

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And, due notice having been given, to the owner of said property and all parties known to claim an interest therein, and the time specified in such notice for payment of such having expired, the goods will be sold at public auction at the below stated location(s) to the highest bidder

FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

by Rob Brezsný for Nov. 25-Dec. 1

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): “It is a tremendous act of violence to begin anything,” said Sagittarian poet Rainer Maria Rilke. “I am not able to begin. I simply skip what should be the beginning.” I urge you to consider trying that approach yourself, Sagittarius. Instead of worrying about how to launch your rebirth, maybe you should just dive into the middle of the new life you want for yourself. Avoid stewing interminably in the frustrating mysteries of the primal chaos so you can leap into the fun in full swing.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): The Golden Gate Bridge spans the place where San Francisco Bay meets the Pacific Ocean. It wasn’t easy to build. The water below is deep, wind-swept, beset with swirling currents, and, on occasion, shrouded in blinding fog. Recognizing its magnificence, the American Society of Civil Engineers calls the bridge one of the Modern Wonders of the World. Strange to think, then, that the bridge was constructed between 1933 and 1937, during the height of the Great Depression. I suggest you make it your symbol of power for the coming week, Capricorn. Formulate a plan to begin working toward a triumph in the least successful part of your life.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): It’s an excellent time for you to get an entourage – or if you already have one, to expand it. For that matter, it’s a perfect moment for you to recruit more soldiers to help you carry out your plot to overthrow the status quo. Or to round up more allies for your plans to change the course of local history. Or to gather more accomplices as you seek to boldly go where you have never gone before. So beef up your support system. Boost the likelihood that your conspiracy will succeed.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): If you expand your concept of what you’re capable of, you will receive a specific offer to move up a notch. If you perform your duties with intensified care and grace, you will be given new responsibilities that catalyze your sleeping potential. The universe doesn’t always act with so much karmic precision, with such sleek, efficient fairness, but that’s how it’s working in your vicinity right now. Here’s one more example of how reasonable the fates are behaving: If you resolve to compete against no one but yourself, you will be shown new secrets about how to express your idiosyncratic genius.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): “Basic research is what I am doing when I don’t know what I am doing,” said rocket scientist Werner von Braun. I think it’s an excellent time for you to plunge into that kind of basic research, Aries. You’re overdue for wandering around frontiers you didn’t even realize you needed to investigate. You’re ready to soak up insights from outside the boundaries of your understanding. In fact, I think it’s your sacred duty to expose yourself to raw truths and unexpected vistas that have been beyond your imagination’s power to envision.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): In Woody Allen’s film *Midnight in Paris*, the Ernest Hemingway character says, “All cowardice comes from not loving, or not loving well enough.” Given the state of your current astrological omens, Taurus, that is an excellent piece of advice. I suspect you are going to be asked to call on previously untapped reserves of courage in the coming week – not because you’ll have to face physical danger, but rather because you will have a chance to get to the bottom of mysteries that can only be explored if you have more courage than you’ve had up until now. And the single best way to summon the valor you’ll need is to love like a god or goddess loves.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): “When I see your face, the stones start spinning!” wrote poet Rumi, as translated by Coleman Barks. “Water turns pearly,/Fire dies down and doesn’t destroy,/In your presence I don’t want what I thought I wanted.” I think you need to be in the presence of a face like that, Gemini. You’ve got to get your fixations scrambled by an arresting vision of soulful authenticity. You need to have your colors transposed and your fire and water reconfigured. Most of all, it’s crucial that you’re nudged into transforming your ideas about what you really want. So go find that healingly disruptive prod, please. It’s not necessarily the face of a gorgeous icon. It could be the face of a whisperer in the darkness or of a humble hero who’s skilled in the art of surrender. Do you know where to look?

CANCER (June 21-July 22): “All my life I have longed to be loved by a woman who was melancholy, thin, and an actress,” wrote 19th century French author Stendhal in his diary. “Now I have been, and I am not happy.” I myself had a similar experience – craving a particular type of woman who, when she finally showed up in the flesh, disappointed me. But it turned out to be a liberating experience. Relieved of my delusory fantasy, I was able to draw more joy from what life was actually giving me. As you contemplate your own loss, Cancerian, I hope you will find the release and deliverance I did.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): If you traveled 300 million years back in time, you might freak out in abject fear as you encountered dragonflies as big as eagles and cockroaches the size of dogs. But since you’re quite safe from those monsters here in the present, there’s no need to worry yourself sick about them. Similarly, if you managed to locate a time machine and return to an earlier phase of your current life, you’d come upon certain events that upset you and derailed you way back then. And yet the odds are very high that you’re not going to find a time machine. So maybe you could agree to relinquish all the anxiety you’re still carrying from those experiences that can no longer upset and derail you. Now would be an excellent moment to do so.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): To prepare for her role in the film *The Help*, actress Jessica Chastain forced herself to gain 15 pounds. It was tough, because she normally follows a very healthy diet. The strategy that worked best was to ingest a lot of calorie-heavy, estrogen-rich ice cream made from soybeans. To be in alignment with current cosmic rhythms, it would make sense for you to fatten yourself up, too, Virgo – metaphorically speaking, that is. I think you’d benefit from having more ballast, more gravitas. You need to be sure you’re well-anchored and not easy to push around. It’s nearly time to take an unshakable stand for what you care about most.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): In a famous Monty Python sketch, a Hungarian tourist goes into a British tobacconist’s store to buy cigarettes. Since he doesn’t speak English, he consults a phrase book to find the right words. “My hovercraft is full of eels,” he tells the clerk, who’s not sure what he means. The tourist tries again: “Do you want to come back to my place, bouncy bouncy?” Again, the clerk is confused. In the coming week, Libra, I foresee you having to deal with communications that are equally askew. Be patient, please. Try your best to figure out the intentions and meanings behind the odd messages you’re presented with. Your translating skills are at a peak, fortunately, as are your abilities to understand what other people – even fuzzy thinkers – are saying.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): There are modern Chinese painters who use oil paints on canvas to create near-perfect replicas of famous European masterpieces. So while the genuine copy of Van Gogh’s *The Starry Night* is worth more than \$100 million, you can buy an excellent copy on the Internet for less than \$100. If you’re faced with a comparable choice in the coming week, whether to go with a pricey original or a cheaper but good facsimile, I suggest you take the latter. For your current purposes, you just need what works, not what gives you prestige or bragging rights.

Go to RealAstrology.com to check out Rob Brezsný’s
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SERVICES Here’s today’s “TO DO” list: Hire movers. Install toilet. Hire designer to set up website. File taxes. Learn Spanish. Where to start? *The Austin Chronicle’s* Service section.

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